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**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

IN RE: OTTER.AI PRIVACY
LITIGATION

Case No. 5:25-cv-06911-EKL

**CONSOLIDATED CLASS ACTION
COMPLAINT**

**DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL
ENCLOSED**

INTRODUCTION

1. Defendant Otter.ai, Inc. (“Otter”) has developed and provides to the public an artificial intelligence-powered meeting assistant called Otter Notetaker.

2. Otter Notetaker engages in real-time transcription of Google Meet, Zoom, and Microsoft Teams meetings for Otter accountholders and other users.

3. Publicly, Otter promises privacy; it says it “recognize[s] your conversations may contain some of your most sensitive and confidential information” and “believe[s]

1 transparency is important to all meeting participants,” and “[t]hat’s why we are committed
2 to keeping your information private and secure.”¹

3 4. Behind these promises, Otter spies. Otter Notetaker slips surreptitiously into
4 meetings as a silent participant. It records audio. It takes screenshots of conversations,
5 along with audio recordings, and stores everything without the participants’ knowledge or
6 consent.

7 5. By virtue of providing the Otter Notetaker service, Otter accesses and records
8 the contents of private conversations between Otter accountholders who use the Otter
9 Notetaker and meeting participants who do not subscribe to Otter’s services.

10 6. Consequently, Otter’s surreptitious surveillance extends far beyond its own
11 user base. When an Otter accountholder connects their calendar, Otter silently, and
12 automatically, joins every meeting and begins recording and transcribing the
13 conversation, as well as taking screenshots of the video call.

14 7. No one is asked or warned of what Otter does. Most participants never know.
15 They only learn later, when partial transcripts or screenshots appear in their inbox – in
16 an email *after* the meeting is concluded.

17 8. Otter Notetaker hides in plain sight, often indistinguishable from a real
18 person in the room. It appears as the user’s notetaker—for instance, “Anna’s Notetaker
19 (Otter.ai)” —and provides no visual or auditory notice to other meeting participants that
20 the meeting is being recorded in real time, transcribed, and stored on Otter’s servers for
21 its own future use, including advertising and marketing, training of their AI models,
22 development/improvement of their services, and other purposes.

23 9. As a result, Otter captures hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of
24 participants without their informed consent. Confidential work meetings, recruiting
25 interviews, legal strategy sessions, medical appointments, support groups, religious
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27 ¹ Otter, *Privacy & Security*, <https://otter.ai/privacy-security> (last visited Nov. 19, 2025).

1 meetings – the Otter Notetaker records them all.

2 10. Otter also collects names, emails, and contact details from platforms like
3 Zoom, Microsoft Teams, Google calendar, and Outlook calendar, and links those details
4 with the recorded transcripts, capable of identifying specific speakers to specific words at
5 specific times.

6 11. Equally egregious, when in use, the Otter Notetaker creates a voiceprint
7 associated with each speaker it records. These voiceprints are what Otter uses to create a
8 transcript of the meeting. And it stores each voiceprint so that, in future meetings, Otter
9 can identify the same individuals and transcribe their conversations.

10 12. The voiceprints Otter collects are biometric data subject to the protection of
11 the Illinois Biometric Information Privacy Act (“BIPA”).² And for good reason. Voiceprints
12 require protection because they are often used to authenticate individuals’ identities when
13 those individuals seek access to restricted personal or financial information.

14 13. Thus, individuals whose voiceprints are stolen or compromised are at
15 increased risk of identity theft and fraud. Accordingly, BIPA requires that private entities
16 notify, and obtain consent from, individuals before collecting their voiceprints.

17 14. Crucially, Otter does not obtain prior consent, express or otherwise, of
18 persons who attend meetings where the Otter Notetaker is enabled, prior to Otter
19 recording, accessing, reading, and learning the contents of conversations between Otter
20 accountholders and other meeting participants (or before collecting biometric data).

21 15. Moreover, Otter completely fails to disclose to those who do set up Otter to
22 run on virtual meetings but who are recorded by the Otter Notetaker that their
23 conversations are being used to train Otter Notetaker’s automatic speech recognition
24 (“ASR”) and machine learning models, and in turn, to financially benefit Otter’s business.

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26 _____
27 ² Herein, the term “biometric data” refers collectively to biometric information and
28 biometric identifiers, as defined within BIPA.

1 16. Likewise, Otter automatically collects voiceprints from meeting participants
2 without notifying them that it is collecting their biometric information, much less
3 obtaining their consent to, or a required written release for, that collection.

4 17. These BIPA violations are reckless and intentional as Otter’s website shows
5 that it canvassed state-by-state data privacy laws (and even international privacy laws)
6 before releasing the Otter Notetaker. While Otter claims to have taken steps to ensure its
7 software complies with many of these laws, it has made no effort to comply with BIPA,
8 even though its investigation of data privacy laws must have apprised Otter of BIPA’s
9 requirements.

10 18. Otter’s actions—taken without user consent and for its own financial
11 benefit—resulted in severe privacy violations for thousands, if not millions, of individuals
12 across the United States including, but certainly not limited to, the Plaintiffs Justin
13 Brewer (“Plaintiff Brewer”), Chaka Theus (“Plaintiff Theus”), Emily Ryan (“Plaintiff
14 Ryan”), Jasper Pierson Walker (“Plaintiff Jasper Walker”), Michael Walker (“Plaintiff
15 Michael Walker”), Nadine Winston (“Plaintiff Winston”), and Riley Dolan (“Plaintiff
16 Dolan”) (collectively, the “Plaintiffs”).

17 19. Through its use of the Otter Notetaker, Otter has failed to comply with
18 federal, California, Illinois, and Washington law. Accordingly, Plaintiffs, on behalf of
19 themselves and a class of similarly situated individuals, assert individual and
20 representative claims for violation of the following statutes: (i) the Electronic
21 Communications Privacy Act of 1986 (“ECPA”), 18 U.S.C. § 2510, *et seq.*; (ii) the Computer
22 Fraud and Abuse Act (“CFAA”), 18 U.S.C. § 1030, *et seq.*; (iii) the California Invasion of
23 Privacy Act (“CIPA”) Cal. Penal Code §§ 631, 632, 635, and 638.50-.56; (iv) California’s
24 Comprehensive Computer Data and Fraud Access Act (“CDAFA”), Cal. Penal Code § 502,
25 *et seq.*; (v) California’s statutory prohibition against larceny and the receipt of stolen
26 property, Cal. Penal Code § 496(a) and (c); (vi) the California Unfair Competition Law
27 (“UCL”), Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200, *et seq.*; (vii) Illinois’ BIPA, 740 ILCS §§ 14/15(a)

1 and 14/15(b); and (viii) Washington's Wiretapping Law, Wash. Rev. Code §§ 9.73.030, *et*
2 *seq.* Plaintiffs also assert individual and representative claims for the common law torts
3 of intrusion upon seclusion, trespass against chattels, and conversion as well as for
4 California's constitutional prohibition against invasion of privacy and a request for a
5 Declaratory Judgment.

6 PARTIES

7 20. Plaintiff Brewer is a natural person and citizen of California who resides in
8 San Jacinto, California, where he intends to remain.

9 21. Plaintiff Theus is a natural person and citizen of California who resides in
10 Los Angeles, California, where she intends to remain.

11 22. Plaintiff Ryan is a natural person and citizen of California who resides in
12 Irvine, California, where she intends to remain.

13 23. Plaintiff Jasper Walker is a natural person and citizen of Illinois who resides
14 in Chicago, Illinois, where she intends to remain.

15 24. Plaintiff Michael Walker is a natural person and citizen of Illinois who
16 resides in Chicago, Illinois, where he intends to remain.

17 25. Plaintiff Nadine Winston is a natural person and citizen of Illinois who
18 resides in Northbrook, Illinois, where she intends to remain.

19 26. Plaintiff Riley Dolan is a natural person and citizen of Washington who
20 resides in Seattle, Washington, where he intends to remain.

21 27. Defendant Otter is a global technology company that provides AI-powered
22 meeting transcription, voice recording, and productivity software for independent
23 professionals and businesses. Otter is incorporated under Delaware law. Its principal
24 place of business is located at 800 W. El Camino Real, Suite 170 in Mountain View,
25 California 94040.

26 JURISDICTION & VENUE

27 28. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Otter because its principal place of
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1 business is in California.

2 29. On information and good faith belief, Otter’s decisions concerning use of its
3 Otter Notetaker software to intercept Class members’ communications and voiceprints
4 and train its ASR and machine learning tools emanated from its California headquarters.

5 30. All Class members’ claims arise from, and are closely related to, Otter’s
6 contacts with California. Thus, it is also fair and reasonable for this Court to exercise
7 jurisdiction over Otter.

8 31. This Court has subject-matter jurisdiction under the Class Action Fairness
9 Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(2). At least one member of the proposed Class is a citizen of a
10 state different from that of Otter; the amount in controversy exceeds \$5,000,000, exclusive
11 of interest and costs; the proposed Class consists of more than 100 class members, and
12 none of the exceptions under the subsection apply to this action.

13 32. This Court also has subject matter jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1331
14 because this Complaint alleges claims arising under federal law—specifically, under the
15 ECPA and CFAA. Moreover, the Court may exercise supplemental jurisdiction over the
16 California, Illinois, and Washington state law claims contained in this Complaint
17 pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367.

18 33. Venue is proper in the Northern District of California because Otter’s
19 principal place of business is in Mountain View and a substantial part of the events or
20 omissions giving rise to the Plaintiffs’ claims occurred in this district.

21 **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

22 **A. Otter’s Nonconsensual Interception and Use of Plaintiffs’ and Class**
23 **Members’ Communications**

24 34. Otter is a rapidly growing technology company, offering a transcription and
25 productivity platform that integrates with various widely used professional
26 communication services, including Zoom, Google, and Microsoft Teams.

27 35. This is not surprising given that in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, the
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1 American workplace underwent a profound transformation, evolving into a permanent
2 shift, with millions of professionals now working entirely online. As a result, meetings
3 once conducted face-to-face in conference rooms and coffee shops, are now hosted via Zoom,
4 Microsoft Teams, Google Meets, and other video conferencing platforms. By 2023, over
5 35% of full-time employees in the United States regularly worked remotely, and an even
6 greater percentage participated in hybrid work environments.

7 36. Since 2016, Otter has grown rapidly, processing over 1 billion meetings for
8 25 million global users ranging from individuals to startups and Fortune 500 companies.³

9 37. Otter has become one of the most used virtual note-takers, marketing itself
10 as the “leading AI Meeting agent.”⁴

11 38. In March of 2025, the company surpassed \$100 million in annual recurring
12 revenue (“ARR”), an exceptional figure for a company of Otter’s size.⁵

13 39. Much of Otter’s growth is attributable to its AI-powered meeting assistant,
14 the Otter Notetaker. The Otter Notetaker, whose software and functionality is also part
15 of a broader and enhanced AI transcription service called OtterPilot, is available to Otter
16 accountholders.

17 40. For Otter accountholders, the Otter Notetaker automatically joins scheduled
18 Google Meet, Zoom, and Microsoft Teams meetings through synced calendar events to
19 provide real-time transcription.⁶ However, many Otter accountholders do not realize that
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21 ³ *Otter.ai Breaks \$100M ARR Barrier and Transforms Business Meetings Launching*
22 *Industry-First AI Meeting Agent Suite*, OTTER (March 25, 2025), <https://otter.ai/blog/otter-ai-breaks-100m-arr-barrier-and-transforms-business-meetings-launching-industry-first-ai-meeting-agent-suite#:~:text=With%20over%2025%20million%20global,agentic%20AI%2C%20but%20defining%20it> (last accessed August 12, 2025).

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25 ⁴ *Id.*

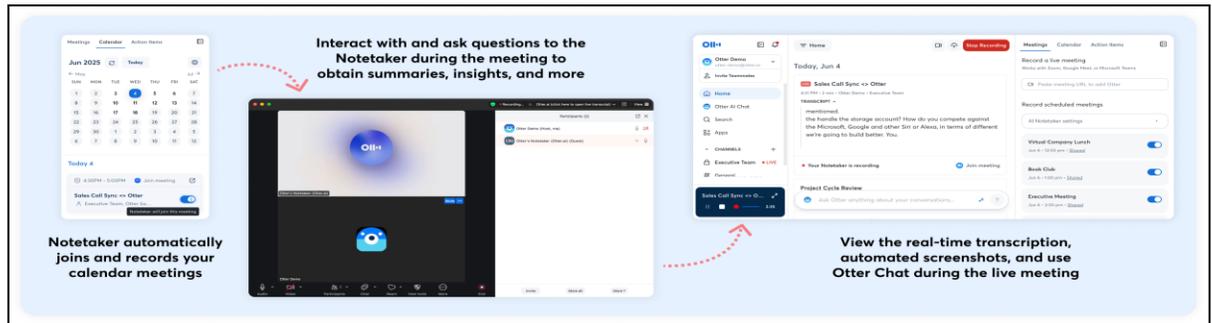
26 ⁵ *See, supra*, n.1.

27 ⁶ *Stop Otter Notetaker from automatically joining your meetings*, OTTER (July 2025),
28 <https://help.otter.ai/hc/en-us/articles/12906714508823-Stop-Otter-Notetaker-from->

1 Otter Notetaker will then join and record every meeting set on their calendars.

2 41. In doing so, it transmits data directly to Otter in real time for processing and
3 transcription purposes.⁷ (See Image 1, below).

4 **Image 1**



11 42. Thus, the Otter Notetaker is not a tool used solely by the accountholder to
12 record others. Instead, the Otter Notetaker is a tool used by Otter itself—a separate and
13 distinct third-party entity from its accountholders and other parties to the conversation—
14 to record and transcribe conversations to which it is not a party.

15 43. Otter does not notify the participants that it intends to record the entire
16 meeting, and often, depending on the platform they are using, participants might not be
17 able to remove Otter Notetaker from the meeting.

18 44. As a result, Otter Notetaker joins the meeting without obtaining the
19 affirmative consent from any meeting participant. It could also join meetings on which the
20 Otter accountholder is not present at all.

21 45. Moreover, while Otter has the ability to send pre-meeting notification that it
22 will join and automatically record all participants during the call unless they exclude the
23 notetaker from the meeting, it does not do so.

24 46. Other companies and platforms alert participants if someone starts
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26 automatically-joining-your-meetings.

27 ⁷ *Otter Notetaker Overview*, OTTER, <https://help.otter.ai/hc/en-us/articles/4425393298327-Otter-Notetaker-Overview> (last accessed August 12, 2025).

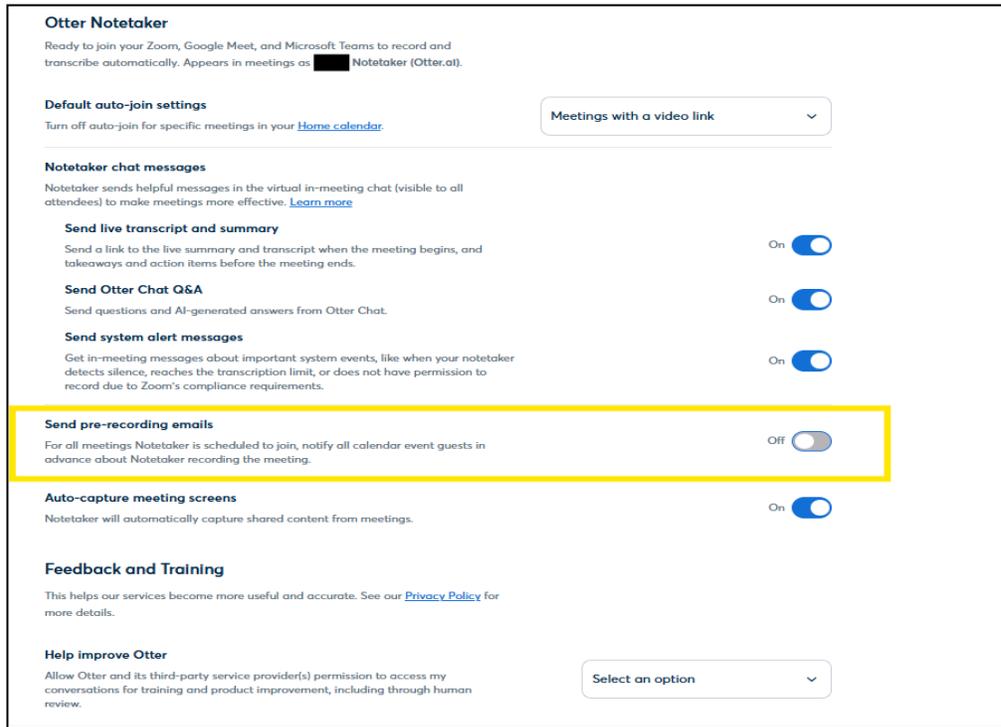
1 recording. For instance, Zoom and Microsoft Teams prominently announce that a
2 recording has started, automatically muting and turning off cameras for all participants
3 until they consent to the recording/use of their video. Otter could notify users as well by
4 sending email in advance of the meeting notifying all participants that it will record them,
5 and by playing a pre-recorded voice message announcing its recording and displaying the
6 same message in the chat before it starts the recording. Otter chooses not to do that.

7 47. Instead, Otter accountholders must toggle this setting “On” for it to apply to
8 pre-scheduled meetings.⁸

9 48. Below is a screenshot demonstrating that when default account settings are
10 used, the pre-meeting email notification setting is turned “Off.” (See Image 3, below).

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24 ⁸ *Manage your Otter Notetaker Settings*, OTTER, [https://help.otter.ai/hc/en-](https://help.otter.ai/hc/en-us/articles/13675989227543-Manage-your-Otter-Notetaker-settings)
25 [us/articles/13675989227543-Manage-your-Otter-Notetaker-settings](https://help.otter.ai/hc/en-us/articles/13675989227543-Manage-your-Otter-Notetaker-settings) (referring to toggling
26 the pre-meeting notification setting “on”) (last accessed August 12, 2025); *Enforce pre-*
27 *meeting recording notifications*, OTTER, [https://help.otter.ai/hc/en-](https://help.otter.ai/hc/en-us/articles/13353091821591-Enforce-pre-meeting-recording-notifications)
28 [us/articles/13353091821591-Enforce-pre-meeting-recording-notifications](https://help.otter.ai/hc/en-us/articles/13353091821591-Enforce-pre-meeting-recording-notifications) (indicating that
pre-meeting recording notifications must be “turned on” by businesses who subscribe to
Otter’s Enterprise plan) (last accessed August 12, 2025).

Image 3



49. Furthermore, when Otter Notetaker joins a meeting, it does not provide meeting participants with reliable or automatic visual or auditory alerts to meeting participants indicating that the meeting is being recorded or transcribed, let alone notice regarding the real-time transmission of their data to Otter or the way in which the company ultimately uses their data.

50. When Otter Notetaker joins a meeting, the application enters the meeting as a silent participant and begins recording audio, transcribing contents in real time while sending and storing the recordings, and capturing and sending data in real time to its servers. Otter does not obtain consent from non-account holder meeting attendees. The participants on the call have no way of knowing that they are being recorded.

51. Often, the Otter Notetaker will not disclose its presence to meeting attendees at all.

52. Occasionally, if someone expressly inquires in the chat or asks a question about Otter—typically well into the conversation or at the very least after the conversation

1 had started and they had been recorded without notice or consent, Otter Notetaker will
2 post a reply message in the chat, introduce itself as an “AI assistant” that is helping the
3 designated Otter accountholder “take notes for this meeting.” However, it does not disclose
4 that it has been recording the entire conversation, and transmitting the conversation to
5 its servers in real-time. The meeting participants who join via phone are not able to see
6 the posted message at all (if it has been posted).

7 53. With the message that appears after someone inquires about Otter, Otter
8 will also include a link to view the meeting notes, which prompts non-accountholders to
9 sign up for Otter to view, an option that many do not select. Only if they create an account
10 (after they had already been recorded without notice or consent) and view the transcript
11 do they learn that their conversations have been recorded.

12 54. At this point, Otter has already begun taking screenshots, recording audio,
13 timestamping statements, labeling speakers, analyzing voiceprints, and analyzing the
14 obtained data.

15 55. Most of the time, Otter Notetaker appears and disappears as a silent
16 participant with no message at all.

17 56. Even if these rare disclosures are made, participants are often mid-
18 conversation and do not realize what is happening and do not have time to investigate
19 Otter’s automated message that only suggests note taking – not recording, transcribing,
20 and storing the entirety of the conversation.

21 57. Most participants do not use the provided link inconspicuously suggesting it
22 is to follow “notes” while actively engaged in a meeting and unable to create the account,
23 unaware that Otter has been recording their private discussions from the moment it
24 joined.

25 **B. Otter’s Well-Documented Failures to Provide Sufficient Notice and Obtain**
26 **Consent from Meeting Participants**

27 58. As a result of Otter’s default settings and lack of notice, even Otter’s
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1 accountholders are frequently unaware that the Otter Notetaker is transcribing and
2 sending meeting data, while non-accountholder participants receive no notice at all and
3 are therefore entirely unaware until such data has already been shared.

4 59. For example, around February 2023, Otter originally introduced the Otter
5 Notetaker feature with a pop-up setup page which included a toggle automatically set to
6 share meeting notes with meeting attendees.

7 60. Many Otter accountholders clicked on “Enable Otter Assistant,” without
8 realizing that they had given permission to Otter to attend all their meetings (even when
9 accountholders are not present), record the entire meeting, and share transcribed meeting
10 notes with non-accountholder attendees (regardless of their own attendance).⁹

11 61. Automatically enabling this feature for all accountholders, and without
12 individual consent, was disastrous.

13 62. In a Reddit post, one Otter accountholder described a humiliating incident in
14 which Otter automatically joined a job interview without their knowledge or permission.
15 During the interview, an interviewer questioned whether the meeting was being recorded,
16 the accountholder denied that it was, genuinely believing that to be true.

17 63. The accountholder was mortified to later discover that Otter had in fact
18 recorded and transcribed the meeting, with notes distributed to all participants. Feeling
19 frustrated he wrote: “Otter AI is seriously intrusive and I have no idea who now has access
20 to a private meeting that I ensured (sic) all was NOT being recorded... This company Otter
21 AI should be sued for the intrusive and devious nature it presents as well as privacy and
22 security risks.” The user concluded, “Needless to say – I will not get this job because Otter
23 AI made me look like a liar and a fool! Unbelievable!”¹⁰ (See Image 4, below).

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25 ⁹ Barbara Krasnoff, *How to keep Otter from automatically recording your meetings*, OTTER
26 (April 13, 2023), <https://www.theverge.com/23660324/otter-record-transcribe-how-to-stop>.

27 ¹⁰ u/Specialist-Maize-957, Comment to *Do not join Otter.Ai unless you want your whole*
28 *company spammed*, REDDIT (July 17, 2025),

Image 4

64. In another instance, researcher and engineer Alex Bilzerian joined a Zoom meeting with a venture-capital firm and the Otter Notetaker was used to record the call. After the meeting, Otter automatically emailed Bilzerian and other participants a transcript of the call, which included “hours of their private conversations afterward, where they discussed intimate, confidential details about their business.” Bilzerian described that, after he had exited the call, investors discussed their firm’s “strategic failures and cooked metrics.” After notifying the investors that they had inadvertently shared confidential details about their firm, Bilzerian ultimately decided to terminate his potential deal with them.¹¹

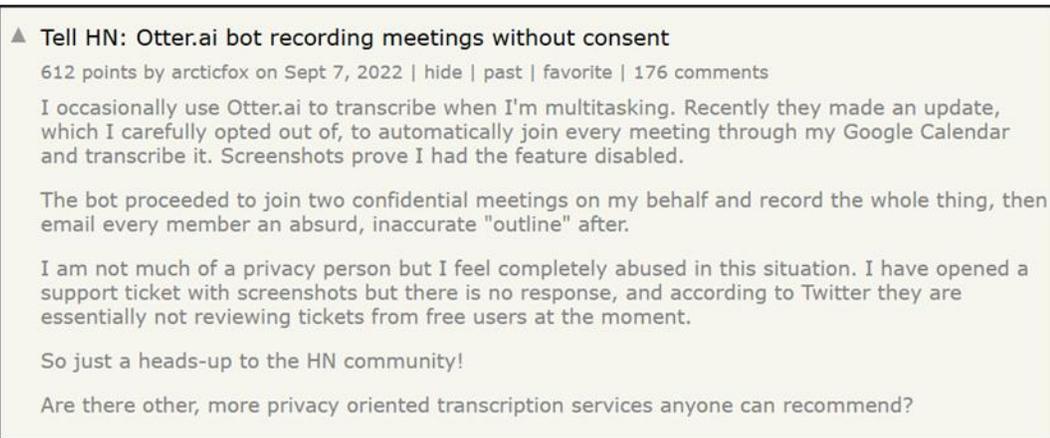
65. Otter accountholders have also reported that even after attempting to disable Otter Notetaker’s automatic join feature, Otter Notetaker continued to join meetings without any further action by the accountholder, and often without their knowledge. This has resulted in Otter Notetaker repeatedly appearing in private meetings, even after accountholders have attempted to disable it, and continue to record participants without consent.

https://www.reddit.com/r/projectmanagement/comments/lj0cfei/do_not_join_Otter.ai_unless_you_want_your_whole/.

¹¹ Brooke Kato, *AI is spying on your workplace gossip and secrets — and sharing them afterward*, NEW YORK POST (Oct. 4, 2024), <https://nypost.com/2024/10/04/tech/ai-is-spying-on-your-workplace-gossip-and-secrets-and-sharing-them-afterward/>.

1 66. For example, an Otter account holder posted online that they “carefully opted
2 out of” an Otter update that would enable Otter Notetaker to automatically join their
3 meetings through their Google Calendar. Yet, they explained, “the [Otter.ai] bot proceeded
4 to join two confidential meetings on my behalf and record the whole thing, then email
5 every member an absurd, inaccurate ‘outline’ after.” The user was extremely frustrated
6 and felt “completely abused.” They warned fellow users that they “opened a support ticket
7 with screenshots [with Otter],” but, according to Twitter, Otter was neglecting to review
8 any tickets from free users.¹² (See Image 5, below).

9 **Image 5**



22 **C. Otter Trains Its Automatic Speech Recognition Model on User
23 Conversations and Uses Personal Information It Receives from Meeting
24 Attendees for Its Own Financial Benefit**

25 67. Otter Notetaker’s ability to accurately transcribe conversations depends
26 upon its automatic speech recognition (“ASR”) and machine learning models.

27 68. An ASR is an AI technology, often a machine learning algorithm, that
28 converts spoken language into written text.

 69. Otter has stated explicitly that it trains its AI models on recordings and
transcriptions made using the Otter Notetaker.

¹² arcticfox, *Tell HN: Otter.ai bot recording meetings without consent*, HACKER NEWS (Sept. 7, 2022), <https://news.ycombinator.com/item?id=32751071>.

1 70. As part of its Privacy Policy, Otter states the following: “We train our
2 proprietary artificial intelligence on de-identified audio recordings. We also train our
3 technology on transcriptions to provide more accurate services, which may contain
4 Personal Information. We obtain explicit permission (e.g. when you rate the transcript
5 quality and check the box to give Otter.ai and its third-party service provider(s) permission
6 to access the conversation for training and product improvement purposes) for manual
7 review of specific audio recordings to further refine our model training data.”¹³

8 71. As indicated by Otter’s Privacy Policy, Otter does not seek the consent of
9 meeting participants, besides the Otter accountholder, for using audio recordings or
10 conversation transcriptions to train its ASR and machine learning models.

11 72. This audio recording data Otter obtains often contains the sensitive personal
12 information of unsuspecting third parties, yet is stored and processed without obtaining
13 their informed consent.

14 73. As part of its Privacy Policy, Otter implores its accountholders to “please
15 make sure [they] have the necessary permissions from . . . co-workers, friends or other
16 third parties before sharing Personal Information” in the event of an audio recording.¹⁴

17 74. In effect, Otter tries to shift responsibility, outsourcing its legal obligations
18 to its accountholders, rather than seeking permission and consent from the individuals
19 Otter records, as required by law.

20 75. Burying these requirements inside a dense privacy policy that Otter knows
21 consumers do not read is not a meaningful disclosure of its illegal practices – even with
22 respect to the accountholders. Otter has a duty to obtain consent under the applicable
23 recording laws (as discussed below), and it cannot shift such responsibility by placing it in
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25 ¹³ *Privacy Policy*, OTTER (September 1, 2024), <https://otter.ai/privacy-policy> (last accessed
26 August 12, 2025).

27 ¹⁴ *Id.*

1 fine print of its privacy policy. The accountholders never see this disclosure, and often do
2 not know that Otter is joining meetings again and again, including after the
3 accountholders take steps to prevent Otter from joining the calls.

4 76. This practice allows Otter to harvest and use intimate conversational data
5 and use it for its own purposes – including training of their AI systems, while attempting
6 to insulate itself from accountability for the harm it creates by design.

7 77. And despite Otter’s claim to “de-identify” audio recordings for AI training
8 purposes, Otter provides the public no description of what this de-identification process
9 entails. More importantly, the voiceprints it uses are biometric data. Even if supposed
10 identifiers are purportedly stripped, the unique fingerprint with can be re-identified and
11 matched with alarming accuracy. Once the voiceprints are used for AI training, the
12 biometric data is not stripped nor can it be blurred out like a face in a video. Furthermore,
13 the context/natures of conversations combined with voices identify people not purely on
14 the email/name to which it is attached. Meetings contain highly specific details: company
15 projects, internal conversations, use of names connected to voices, references to
16 individual’s professional and/or personal roles, and more. Even if explicit identifiers are
17 removed, the voice recording of the meeting contains enough information to narrow
18 speakers. What’s more is that once something is used in the training of models, that
19 information becomes embedded in system’s behavior, and can be leaked in various forms.
20 Therefore, even if Otter does “de-identify” some information, by feeding the meeting
21 recordings into its machines, it does not and cannot truly anonymize the speaker
22 information. Perhaps for this very reason, Otter does not describe this process as
23 “anonymization,” reflecting an implicit recognition that true anonymity cannot be
24 achieved here.

25 78. Therefore, Otter’s deidentification process does not remove confidential
26 information or guarantee speaker anonymity.

27 79. Scientific research into de-identification of information used to train machine
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1 learning models has revealed that even sophisticated de-identification procedures are
2 unreliable.¹⁵

3 80. The inadequacy of de-identification for conversational data is compounded by
4 Otter’s policy of retaining data for an indefinite period. As stated in Otter’s Privacy Policy,
5 “Otter.ai stores all Personal Information for as long as necessary to fulfill the purposes set
6 out in this Policy, or for as long as we are required to do so by law in order to comply with
7 a regulatory obligation.”¹⁶

8 81. Taken together, what Otter has done is use its Otter Notetaker meeting
9 assistant to record, transcribe, and utilize the contents of conversations without Class
10 members’ informed consent.

11 82. Otter designed the Otter Notetaker to record and transcribe real-time virtual
12 meetings and purposefully intended for the data obtained to train its ASR and machine
13 learning models.

14 83. As such, when Otter provided the Otter Notetaker service to its
15 accountholders, Otter understood and therefore intended to record the communications of
16 the Class members without their consent.

17 84. This purpose and intention is exemplified by the fact that Otter does not
18 engage in best industry practices. For example, a rival company, Read.ai, permits any
19 conversation participant, including those who do not use Read.ai, to stop recording during
20 a meeting.¹⁷

21
22 ¹⁵ See, e.g., Atiquer Sakar, *et al.*, De-identification is not enough: a comparison between
23 two de-identified and synthetic clinical notes, 14 *Sci. Rep.* 29699, 5 (2024) (“We trained a
24 machine learning classifier with de-identified clinical notes. We mounted a membership
25 inference attack on the classifier and found the attack quite successful. This finding has
26 far-reaching privacy implications for membership-sensitive models that use clinical notes
27 in their training.”).

26 ¹⁶ *Id.*

27 ¹⁷ *How do I remove or stop Read from joining meetings?*, READ,
28 17

1 85. The failure of Otter to include such functionality for its own transcription
2 services is thus indicative of its intent to record conversations in the absence of
3 participants' informed consent.

4 86. What is more, Otter exploits the private, identifying and recorded
5 information of meeting participants to send automated emails to non-accountholder
6 attendees, often including transcripts and summaries, to encourage them to sign up for
7 Otter's services.

8 87. Beyond spamming non-accountholders with Otter's promotional emails,
9 Otter uses the recordings it obtains for a variety of its own purposes including (as
10 previously mentioned) improving its services and training its ASR, but also processing job
11 applications (if someone were to apply to work for Otter), social network support (such as
12 sending messages purportedly on behalf of users to social networks), contracting vendors,
13 research, and even sharing the collected data with other third parties such as analytics
14 providers, advertisers, vendors, social networks, and more.

15 88. In addition to secretly recording and transcribing non-user participants'
16 voices and statements, Otter collects and stores identifying information about these
17 individuals, including their names and email addresses, by extracting data from the Otter
18 accountholder's calendar invites and meeting metadata, often without the knowledge or
19 consent of the Otter accountholder, let alone all meeting participants.

20 89. At first, Otter emails all invitees to the call after the call is concluded,
21 inviting them to access the notes of the call. These emails are deceptive, appearing simply
22 as shared meeting notes. Non-accountholders who want to access these notes, that appear
23 to have been shared by their colleagues, open the link in their emails to discover that they
24 must sign up for Otter to access the notes.

25
26 _____
27 [https://support.read.ai/hc/en-us/articles/23222131547795-How-do-I-remove-or-stop-Read-
28 from-joining-meetings](https://support.read.ai/hc/en-us/articles/23222131547795-How-do-I-remove-or-stop-Read-from-joining-meetings) (last accessed August 12, 2025).

1 90. Unfortunately, those individuals who try to access notes and are forced to
2 create an account are often automatically enrolled in the service that allows Otter to join
3 the calls that appear on their calendar and initiate the non-consensual recordings. Only if
4 these users create the account can they discover that they had been illegally recorded.

5 91. Previously, Otter’s onboarding process included calendar syncing as a default
6 setting and did not offer users the option to customize what data or permissions would be
7 shared throughout the set-up process.

8 92. Recently, Otter began allowing new users to select calendar preferences at
9 signup, but the default options remained the same—to share the entire calendar and
10 contact information of the participants.

11 93. Even with the new set up, the platform continues to join and record meetings
12 without notifying or obtaining consent from non-user attendees.

13 94. As one of the Otter’s accountholders accurately explained in complaining
14 about Otter’s behavior: “[Otter’s] user acquisition approach is basically to spread like a
15 virus...Most users have no idea [they have granted Otter access to their meetings], they’re
16 just there for the meeting notes (at the prompting of a trusted colleague/earlier victim).”¹⁸

17 95. When another user replied that the situation seemed problematic, the
18 original user described Otter’s software as a “privacy and security nightmare.”¹⁹

19 96. Otter uses the collected data to continue bombarding the participants with
20 commercial emails, enticing them to sign up for its services – without the users’
21 permission, knowledge, or consent. Otter uses the account holders’ names to indicate that
22 the email was sent on their behalf -when in reality – it never was. The Otter
23 accountholders don’t want to bombard their friends, colleagues, or family with spam; they
24

25 ¹⁸ u/Neither-State-211, Post titled *Otter.ai rant*, REDDIT (January 2025),
26 https://www.reddit.com/r/sysadmin/comments/li3rsds/Otter.ai_rant/.

27 ¹⁹ *Id.*

1 do not even know the emails are sent on their behalf by Otter, and solely to Otter’s
2 commercial benefit.

3 97. Overall, Otter takes, processes, stores, and profits from the data of non-
4 accountholders even though these individuals have never agreed to Otter’s Terms of
5 Service or Privacy Policy.

6 98. Otter thus benefits from obtaining as much data as possible since it uses such
7 data to improve its software for its own commercial purposes regardless of source or lack
8 of consent.

9 99. Otter cannot rely on users’ “consent” to justify its surveillance of non-users.

10 100. Not only is Otter aware that many of its accountholders do not realize that
11 it’s recording and intercepting all their calls as they have repeatedly and openly
12 complained, but also, Otter subscribers have no authority to waive the privacy rights of
13 other meeting participants, nor could they meaningfully obtain informed consent when
14 Otter itself conceals the scope of its data practices.

15 101. Accountholders do not know the full extent of Otter’s uses of private
16 information – such as training AI models or fueling targeted marketing. Consent requires
17 knowledge and transparency.

18 102. In short, the subscribing users lack the full picture, making it impossible for
19 them to secure lawful consent on behalf of anyone else.

20 **D. Plaintiffs’ and Class members’ data is valuable**

21 103. Plaintiffs’ and Class members’ data has value, and Otter harmed Plaintiffs
22 and the Class members by not compensating them for the value of their data and in turn
23 decreasing its value.

24 104. The value of personal data is well understood and generally accepted as a
25 form of currency. It is now incontrovertible that a robust market for this data undergirds
26 the tech economy.

27 105. The robust market for Internet user data has been analogized to the “oil” of
28

1 the tech industry.²⁰ A 2015 article from TechCrunch accurately noted that “Data has
2 become a strategic asset that allows companies to acquire or maintain a competitive
3 edge.”²¹ That article noted that the value of a single Internet user—or really, a single
4 user’s data—varied from about \$15 to more than \$40.

5 106. Professor Paul M. Schwartz, writing in the Harvard Law Review, notes:
6 “Personal information is an important currency in the new millennium. The monetary
7 value of personal data is large and still growing, and corporate America is moving quickly
8 to profit from the trend. Companies view this information as a corporate asset and have
9 invested heavily in software that facilitates the collection of consumer information.”²²

10 107. This economic value has been leveraged largely by corporations who
11 pioneered the methods of its extraction, analysis and use. However, the data also has
12 economic value to Internet users. Market exchanges have sprung up where individual
13 users like Plaintiffs herein can sell or monetize their own data. For example, Nielsen Data
14 and Mobile Computer will pay Internet users for their data.²³

15 108. Another example of this is the Neon app, which pays users for recording their
16 phone conversations, which are subsequently passed along to AI developers who use it to
17 train their chatbots. Neon pays users 30 cents per minute when they speak with other
18 Neon members and 15 cents per minute for speaking to a non-Neon user. In either case,
19 only the Neon users’ side of the conversation is shared, and users can earn up to \$30 per
20

21
22 ²⁰ See *The world’s most valuable resource is no longer oil, but data*,
23 <https://www.economist.com/leaders/2017/05/06/the-worlds-most-valuable-resource-is-no-longer-oil-but-data> (last visited Feb. 13, 2024).

24 ²¹ See <https://techcrunch.com/2015/10/13/whats-the-value-of-your-data/> (last visited Feb. 13, 2024).

25 ²² Paul M. Schwartz, *Property, Privacy, and Personal Data*, 117 HARV.L.REV. 2055, 2056-57 (2004).

26 ²³ See *10 Apps for Selling Your Data for Cash*, <https://wallethacks.com/apps-for-selling-your-data/> (last
27 visited Feb. 13, 2024).

1 day for their conversations.²⁴

2 109. This shows the immense value that software and machine learning
3 developers find in the data available in individual conversations that can be used for
4 training their AI systems, and it is clear that Otter is obtaining significant value from
5 these illicitly recorded conversations.

6 110. There are countless other examples of this kind of market, which is growing
7 more robust as information asymmetries are diminished through revelations to users as
8 to how their data is being collected and used.

9 111. Privacy polls and studies uniformly show that the overwhelming majority of
10 Americans consider one of the most important privacy rights to be the need for an
11 individual's affirmative consent before a company collects and shares its customers' data.

12 112. For example, a study by Consumer Reports shows that 92% of Americans
13 believe that internet companies and websites should be required to obtain consent before
14 selling or sharing consumers' data, and the same percentage believe internet companies
15 and websites should be required to provide consumers with a complete list of the data that
16 has been collected about them.²⁵ Moreover, according to a study by Pew Research Center,
17 a majority of Americans, approximately 79%, are concerned about how data is collected
18 about them by companies.²⁶

20 ²⁴ Lance Whitney, *This app will pay you \$30/day to record your phone calls for AI - but is it worth it?*,
21 ZDNET (September 25, 2025), <https://www.zdnet.com/article/this-app-will-pay-you-30day-to-record-your-phone-calls-for-ai-but-is-it-worth-it/> (last accessed November 26, 2025).

22 ²⁵ *Consumers Less Confident About Healthcare, Data Privacy, and Car Safety, New Survey Finds*,
23 CONSUMER REPORTS (May 11, 2017), <https://www.consumerreports.org/consumer-reports/consumers-less-confident-about-healthcare-data-privacy-and-car-safety/> (last accessed Sept 25, 2023).

24 ²⁶ *Americans and Privacy: Concerned, Confused, and Feeling Lack of Control Over Their*
25 *Personal Information*, PEW RESEARCH CENTER (November 15, 2019),
26 [https://www.pewresearch.org/internet/2019/11/15/americans-and-privacy-concerned-confused-and-](https://www.pewresearch.org/internet/2019/11/15/americans-and-privacy-concerned-confused-and-feeling-lack-of-control-over-their-personal-information/)
27 [feeling-lack-of-control-over-their-personal-information/](https://www.pewresearch.org/internet/2019/11/15/americans-and-privacy-concerned-confused-and-feeling-lack-of-control-over-their-personal-information/) (last accessed Sept 25, 2023).

1 113. Users act consistent with these preferences. Following a new rollout of the
2 iPhone operating software—which asks users for clear, affirmative consent before
3 allowing companies to track users—85% of worldwide users and 94% of U.S. users chose
4 not to share data when prompted.²⁷

5 114. In short, there is a quantifiable economic value to Internet users’ data that
6 is greater than zero. The exact number will be a matter for experts to determine.

7 115. Defendants surreptitiously collected and used Plaintiffs’ and Class members’
8 data, including the information gathered within their conversations and obtaining their
9 voiceprints, in violation of Plaintiffs’ and Class members’ privacy interests.

10 **E. Otter’s Collection and Possession of Biometric Data Violates BIPA**

11 116. To facilitate its transcription process, Otter relies on “cutting-edge voice
12 recognition technology” which is aided by its ASR.²⁸

13 117. This technology collects “speaker identification data” that consists of
14 individuals’ unique voiceprints (“Speaker Data”).²⁹

15 118. Otter then associates the Speaker Data with individuals’ identities. This
16 occurs in one of two ways. When one of Otter’s clients uses the OtterPilot, it “automatically
17 tag[s] speakers in real-time based on the participant names of Zoom meetings.”³⁰ When
18 one of Otter’s clients/accountholders uses the basic Otter Notetaker without Pilot
19 functionality, Otter will provide generic labels to each speaker (such as “Speaker 1” and
20 “Speaker 2”), and the client then “tags” each speaker by manually typing in their name.

21
22
23 ²⁷ Margaret Taylor, *How Apple Screwed Facebook*, WIRED (May 19, 2021),
<https://www.wired.co.uk/article/apple-ios14-facebook> (last accessed Sept 25, 2023).

24 ²⁸ Simon Lau, *What is Otter AI?*, OTTER (March 24, 2024),
25 <https://web.archive.org/web/20240918135606/https://otter.ai/t/meeting-insights/what-is-otter-ai>

26 ²⁹ Otter Help, *Speaker Identification Overview*, OTTER, <https://tinyurl.com/2sd6kumh>.

27 ³⁰ *Id.*

1 119. Tagging creates a “speaker identification profile” associated with the name
2 and the Speaker Data.³¹ Otter then retains the Speaker Data so that Otter “will be able
3 to recognize that speaker in future conversations.”³² In those conversations, Otter
4 automatically associates the Speaker Data with the speaker’s identity for transcription
5 purposes, which confirms that regardless of any purported “de-identification” process,
6 Otter trains its AI systems on the voice recordings to subsequently identify speakers
7 automatically.

8 120. Otter retains Speaker Data indefinitely.

9 121. An FAQ page on Otter’s website states as follows: “Can I delete a speaker?
10 No. You cannot delete a speaker at this time.”³³

11 122. Meeting participants who have their Speaker Data or voiceprints collected
12 and stored indefinitely by Otter are thus unable to even easily discern that Otter is
13 collecting and storing the biometric information, or ensure that it’s deleted and not used
14 for Otter’s future commercial benefit.

15 123. Through the foregoing process, Otter collected and possessed Plaintiffs’
16 Speaker Data and linked it to the Plaintiffs’ names during the meetings in which Plaintiffs
17 participated and also collected and possessed Speaker Data from members of the Illinois
18 Subclass in numerous other meetings and conferences during the statutory limitations
19 period applicable to this suit.

20 124. Otter did not obtain consent before collecting and possessing the biometric
21 data, as Otter never informs anyone that their voiceprints or biometric data are being
22 collected. Nor are they asked to execute a release authorizing the collection of their
23

24 ³¹ Otter Help, *Rematch a Speaker*, OTTER, <https://help.otter.ai/hc/en-us/articles/21665876084119-Rematch-a-speaker>.

26 ³² *See, supra*, n. 29.

27 ³³ *See id.*

1 biometric data.

2 125. Prior to collecting the Plaintiffs’ biometric data, Otter did not publish any
3 publicly available, written policy concerning how and when it retains and destroys
4 biometric data in compliance with BIPA. In fact, Otter’s publicly available policies do not
5 mention or discuss BIPA at all.

6 126. Otter’s violations of BIPA were negligent, reckless, and/or intentional.

7 127. Illinois enacted BIPA in 2008. Since that time, numerous articles regarding
8 the law’s requirements have been published. Numerous lawsuits regarding the same have
9 been filed and the requirements are well known. Due to these articles and lawsuits, Otter
10 knew or should have known that its data collection practices violated the law.

11 128. This is especially so given that Otter apparently canvassed state, federal, and
12 international data privacy laws in connection with the release of its Terms of Service
13 (“Terms”).

14 129. The Terms direct Otter’s vendors to “comply with the obligations” of the
15 “State Privacy Laws” defined within the Terms.³⁴ Otter lists State Privacy Laws to include
16 the California Consumer Privacy Act, the Colorado Privacy Act, the Connecticut Personal
17 Data Privacy and Online Monitoring Act, the Utah Consumer Privacy Act, and the
18 Virginia Consumer Data Protection Act.³⁵

19 130. Yet Otter does not name BIPA even though it is clear, from elsewhere on its
20 website, that Defendant has reviewed Illinois law. Its website provides a “state-by-state
21 breakdown” of laws governing call recordings, which includes a section on Illinois.³⁶

22
23 _____
24 ³⁴ *Terms of Service*, OTTER, <https://otter.ai/terms-of-service> (last visited November 7, 2025).

25 ³⁵ *Id.*

26 ³⁶ Simon Lau, *Is it Illegal to Record Someone Without Their Permission*, OTTER (Feb. 11,
27 2025), <https://otter.ai/blog/is-it-illegal-to-record-someone-without-their-permission>.

1 131. Otter also names international data privacy laws in its Terms. They include
2 the European Union’s General Data Protection Regulation and the United Kingdom’s
3 Data Protection Regulation and e-Privacy Directive.³⁷

4 132. During its exhaustive search of domestic and foreign law, Otter must have
5 (or should have) become acquainted with BIPA’s requirements. Yet Otter nevertheless
6 disregarded those requirements.

7 133. Otter’s hesitance to comply with BIPA may be explained by the value that
8 Otter derives from collecting and retaining biometric data. Otter relies on the dataset of
9 voiceprints it collects to run Otter and to continue building and training its software.

10 134. As Otter puts it in a now-deleted page of its website: “Otter AI relies on
11 cutting-edge voice recognition technology to provide its services. At the forefront of this
12 technology is machine learning, where the system continuously improves its speech
13 recognition capabilities based on a vast dataset of voices and accents.”³⁸

14 **F. Representative Plaintiff Brewer’s Experience**

15 135. Plaintiff Brewer participated in a Zoom meeting in California on February
16 24, 2025, where the Otter Notetaker was used by a meeting participant to transcribe the
17 conversation that transpired therein (the “Conversation”).

18 136. Plaintiff Brewer was not and is not an Otter accountholder.

19 137. Plaintiff Brewer was not aware, nor did he have any reason to suspect that
20 Otter would obtain, illegally record, and retain his conversational data and Speaker Data,
21 storing Brewer’s private conversations on its servers indefinitely.

22
23 _____
24 ³⁷ See, *supra*, n. 35.

25 ³⁸ Simon Lau, *What is Otter AI?*, OTTER (March 24, 2024),
26 <https://web.archive.org/web/20240918135606/https://otter.ai/t/meeting-insights/what-is-otter-ai/>.

1 138. Nor was Plaintiff Brewer informed that Otter would use his communications
2 and Speaker Data to train its ASR and machine learning tools.

3 139. Through this process, Otter read and learned, in real time, the contents of
4 Plaintiff Brewer's communications, and transmitted them simultaneously to its servers.

5 140. Otter did not procure Plaintiff Brewer's prior consent, express or otherwise,
6 to have Otter eavesdrop, record, and use his communications and Speaker Data. Nor did
7 Plaintiff Brewer give his prior consent, express or otherwise, to Otter to allow Otter to
8 wiretap his communications or intercept his Speaker Data.

9 141. Further, Plaintiff Brewer never consented to Otter's use of his
10 communications and Speaker Data to train its ASR and machine learning systems or
11 indefinitely store his private communications and exploit them for commercial gain.

12 142. Plaintiff Brewer neither granted nor would have granted Otter consent to
13 record his Conversation on Zoom or obtain his Speaker Data if he had been given the
14 opportunity.

15 143. Plaintiff Brewer's private conversational data and Speaker Data remain on
16 Otter's servers, from which Otter continues to profit, despite never obtaining Plaintiff
17 Brewer's express and informed consent. The intrusion is especially troubling given the
18 sensitive nature of the discussion and Plaintiff Brewer's expectation of confidentiality.

19 144. Plaintiff Brewer felt frustrated, embarrassed, and stressed to learn that his
20 conversation was recorded without his consent, and his information, voice, and
21 conversation content remains in Otter's possession indefinitely for Otter's commercial use
22 and training of its machines/technology.

23 145. Plaintiff Brewer has, therefore, had his privacy severely invaded and been
24 exposed to the risk and harmful conditions created by Otter's violations of federal and
25 California law alleged below.

26 **G. Plaintiff Chaka Theus's Experience**

27 146. Plaintiff Theus participated in a Zoom meeting in California in March 2025

1 where the Otter Notetaker was used by a meeting participant to transcribe the
2 conversation that transpired therein.

3 147. Plaintiff Theus used Zoom to communicate with a medical professional, and
4 thus, the call involved deeply personal and private medical information which Otter
5 recorded, transcribed, and stored without her knowledge, permission, or consent.

6 148. Plaintiff Theus was not, and is not, an Otter accountholder.

7 149. Plaintiff Theus was not aware, nor did she have any reason to suspect that
8 Otter, as opposed to the Otter accountholder, would obtain and retain her conversational
9 data and Speaker Data.

10 150. Nor was Plaintiff Theus informed that Otter would use her communications
11 and Speaker Data to train its ASR and machine learning tools.

12 151. Through this process, Otter read and learned, in real time, the contents of
13 Plaintiff Theus's communications.

14 152. Otter did not procure Plaintiff Theus's prior consent, express or otherwise, to
15 have Otter eavesdrop, record, and use her communications and Speaker Data. Nor did
16 Plaintiff Theus give her prior consent, express or otherwise, to Otter to allow Otter to
17 wiretap her communications or intercept her Speaker Data.

18 153. Further, Plaintiff Theus never consented to Otter's use of her
19 communications and Speaker Data to train its ASR and machine learning systems or
20 indefinitely store her private communications and Speaker Data and exploit them for
21 commercial gain.

22 154. Plaintiff Theus neither granted nor would have granted Otter consent to
23 record her conversation on Zoom or obtain her Speaker Data if she had been given the
24 opportunity.

25 155. Plaintiff Theus's conversational data and Speaker Data remain on Otter's
26 servers, from which Otter continues to profit, despite never obtaining Plaintiff Theus's
27 express and informed consent. The intrusion is especially troubling given the sensitive

1 nature of the discussion and Plaintiff Theus's expectation of confidentiality.

2 156. Plaintiff Theus felt frustrated, embarrassed, and stressed to learn that her
3 conversation was recorded without her consent, and her information, voice, and
4 conversation content remains in Otter's possession indefinitely for Otter's commercial use
5 and training of its machines/technology.

6 157. Plaintiff Theus has, therefore, had her privacy severely invaded and been
7 exposed to the risk and harmful conditions created by Otter's violations of federal and
8 California law alleged below.

9 **H. Plaintiff Emily Ryan's Experience**

10 158. Plaintiff Ryan participated in a Microsoft Teams meeting in California on or
11 around January 2025 where the Otter Notetaker appeared as one of her co-worker's
12 notetakers. Plaintiff Ryan had no reason to suspect that the conversation is being
13 recorded.

14 159. Plaintiff Ryan used Microsoft Teams to communicate with her work
15 colleague(s) regarding sensitive discussions, which Otter recorded, transcribed, and stored
16 without her knowledge, permission, or consent.

17 160. To her knowledge, Plaintiff Ryan did not create an account with Otter.

18 161. Plaintiff Ryan was not aware, nor did she have any reason to suspect that
19 Otter would obtain and retain her conversational data and Speaker Data.

20 162. Nor was Plaintiff Ryan informed that Otter would use her communications
21 and Speaker Data to train its ASR and machine learning tools.

22 163. Through this process, Otter read and learned, in real time, the contents of
23 Plaintiff Ryan's communications.

24 164. Otter did not procure Plaintiff Ryan's prior consent, express or otherwise, to
25 have Otter eavesdrop, record, and use her communications and Speaker Data. Nor did
26 Plaintiff Ryan give her prior consent, express or otherwise, to Otter to allow Otter to
27 wiretap her communications or intercept her Speaker Data.

1 165. Further, Plaintiff Ryan never consented to Otter's use of her communications
2 and Speaker Data to train its ASR and machine learning systems or indefinitely store her
3 private communications and Speaker Data and exploit them for commercial gain.

4 166. Plaintiff Ryan neither granted nor would have granted Otter consent to
5 record her conversation on Microsoft Teams or obtain her Speaker Data if she had been
6 given the opportunity.

7 167. Plaintiff Ryan's conversational data and Speaker Data remain on Otter's
8 servers, from which Otter continues to profit, despite never obtaining Plaintiff Ryan's
9 express and informed consent. The intrusion is especially troubling given the sensitive
10 nature of the discussion and Plaintiff Ryan's expectation of confidentiality.

11 168. Plaintiff Ryan felt frustrated, embarrassed, and stressed to learn that her
12 conversation was recorded without her consent, and her information, voice, and
13 conversation content remains in Otter's possession indefinitely for Otter's commercial use
14 and training of its machines/technology.

15 169. Plaintiff Ryan has, therefore, had her privacy severely invaded and been
16 exposed to the risk and harmful conditions created by Otter's violations of federal and
17 California law alleged below.

18 **I. Plaintiff Jasper Walker's Experience**

19 170. Plaintiff Jasper Walker participated in Zoom meetings while in Chicago,
20 Illinois on January 10, 2025 and May 19, 2025 where the Otter Notetaker was used to
21 transcribe the conversations that transpired therein, and during which Otter collected the
22 biometric data and Speaker Data of the participants.

23 171. During the meetings, Plaintiff Jasper Walker used Zoom to communicate
24 with a financial professional, and thus, the meetings involved deeply personal and private
25 financial information.

26 172. Plaintiff Jasper Walker was not and is not an Otter accountholder.

27 173. Plaintiff Jasper Walker was not aware, nor did she have any reason to
28

1 suspect, that Otter would obtain and retain her biometric data and Speaker Data.

2 174. Nor was Plaintiff Jasper Walker informed that Otter would use her
3 communications and Speaker Data to train its ASR and machine learning tools.

4 175. Through this process, Otter read and learned, in real time, the content of
5 Plaintiff Jasper Walker's communications.

6 176. Otter did not procure Plaintiff Jasper Walker's prior consent, express or
7 otherwise, to have Otter record and use her biometric data or Speaker Data. Nor did
8 Plaintiff Jasper Walker give her prior consent, express or otherwise, to Otter to allow Otter
9 to intercept her biometric data or Speaker Data.

10 177. Further, Plaintiff Jasper Walker never consented to Otter's use of her
11 communications to train its ASR and machine learning systems or indefinitely store her
12 private communications and Speaker Data and exploit them for commercial gain.

13 178. During the above-listed Zoom meetings, Otter captured Plaintiff Jasper
14 Walker's voiceprint and voiceprints of other attendees, and it created a transcript of the
15 conversations using the same.

16 179. Otter did so without first informing Plaintiff Jasper Walker that it was
17 collecting her biometric data and without first obtaining, from her, a written release for
18 the collection of that data.

19 180. Plaintiff Jasper Walker neither granted nor would have granted Otter
20 consent to obtain her biometric data or Speaker Data if she had been given the
21 opportunity.

22 181. Plaintiff Jasper Walker's conversational data and Speaker Data remain on
23 Otter's servers, from which Otter continues to profit, despite never obtaining Plaintiff
24 Jasper Walker's express and informed consent. The intrusion is especially troubling given
25 the sensitive nature of the discussion and Plaintiff Jasper Walker's expectation of
26 confidentiality.

27 182. Plaintiff Jasper Walker has therefore had her privacy seriously invaded, her
28

1 biometric information non-consensually obtained, and been exposed to the risk and
2 harmful conditions created by Otter’s violations of Illinois law.

3 **J. Plaintiff Michael Walker’s Experience**

4 183. Plaintiff Michael Walker participated in Zoom meetings while in Chicago,
5 Illinois on January 10, 2025 and May 19, 2025 where the Otter Notetaker was used to
6 transcribe the conversations that transpired therein, and during which Otter collected the
7 biometric data and Speaker Data of the participants.

8 184. Plaintiff Michael Walker used Zoom to communicate with a financial
9 professional, and thus, the call involved deeply personal and private financial information.

10 185. Plaintiff Michael Walker believes that the Otter Notetaker that appeared in
11 the above-listed Zoom meetings was labeled something like “Michael’s Notetaker,” and
12 after the meetings, Michael received emails from Otter indicating that the meetings had
13 been recorded by Otter. Michael does not know why. To the best of his knowledge and
14 memory, Michael has never signed up for an Otter account.

15 186. Plaintiff Michael Walker was not aware, nor did he have any reason to
16 suspect that Otter would obtain and retain his biometric data and Speaker Data.

17 187. Nor was Plaintiff Michael Walker informed that Otter would use his
18 communications to train its ASR and machine learning tools.

19 188. Through this process, Otter read and learned, in real time, the content of
20 Plaintiff Michael Walker’s communications.

21 189. Otter did not procure Plaintiff Michael Walker’s prior consent, express or
22 otherwise, to have Otter record and use his biometric data or Speaker Data. Nor did
23 Plaintiff Michael Walker give his prior consent, express or otherwise, to Otter to allow
24 Otter to intercept his biometric data or Speaker Data.

25 190. Further, Plaintiff Michael Walker never consented to Otter’s use of his
26 communications to train its ASR and machine learning systems or indefinitely store his
27 private communications and Speaker Data and exploit them for commercial gain.

1 191. During the above-listed Zoom meetings, Otter captured Plaintiff Michael
2 Walker’s voiceprint and voiceprints of other attendees, and it created a transcript of the
3 meetings using the same.

4 192. Otter did so without first informing Plaintiff Michael Walker that it was
5 collecting his biometric data and without first obtaining, from him, a written release for
6 the collection of that data.

7 193. Plaintiff Michael Walker neither granted nor would have granted Otter
8 consent to obtain his biometric data or Speaker Data if he had been given the opportunity.

9 194. Plaintiff Michael Walker’s conversational data and Speaker Data remain on
10 Otter’s servers, from which Otter continues to profit, despite never obtaining Plaintiff
11 Michael Walker’s express and informed consent. The intrusion is especially troubling
12 given the sensitive nature of the discussion and Plaintiff Michael Walker’s expectation of
13 confidentiality.

14 195. Plaintiff Michael Walker has therefore had his privacy seriously invaded, his
15 biometric information non-consensually obtained, and been exposed to the risk and
16 harmful conditions created by Otter’s violations of Illinois law alleged below.

17 **K. Plaintiff Winston’s Experience**

18 196. Plaintiff Winston participated in Zoom meetings while in Illinois during the
19 applicable period governed by the statute of limitations, where the Otter Notetaker was
20 used by a meeting participant to transcribe the conversations that transpired therein.

21 197. Plaintiff Winston used Zoom, Microsoft Teams, and other video conferencing
22 platforms to communicate information related to her job—such as sensitive business
23 discussions, strategic planning sessions, confidential project meetings, performance
24 reviews, discussions with clients, internal team meetings, and other professional
25 communications.

26 198. Thus, these Conversations involved professional communications which
27 Plaintiff Winston reasonably expected would remain private among the invited
28

1 participants, and which Otter recorded, transcribed, and stored without her knowledge,
2 permission, or consent.

3 199. Plaintiff Winston was not and is not an Otter accountholder.

4 200. Plaintiff Winston was not aware, nor did she have any reason to suspect that
5 Otter, as opposed to the Otter accountholder, would obtain and retain her conversational
6 data.

7 201. Nor was Plaintiff Winston informed that Otter would use her
8 communications to train its ASR and machine learning tools.

9 202. Through this process, Otter read and learned, in real time, the content of
10 Plaintiff Winston's communications.

11 203. Otter did not procure Plaintiff Winston's prior consent, express or otherwise,
12 to have Otter eavesdrop, record, and use her communications and Speaker Data. Nor did
13 Plaintiff Winston give her prior consent, express or otherwise, to Otter to allow Otter to
14 wiretap her communications or intercept her Speaker Data.

15 204. Further, Plaintiff Winston never consented to Otter's use of her
16 communications to train its ASR and machine learning systems or indefinitely store her
17 private communications and Speaker Data and exploit them for commercial gain.

18 205. Plaintiff Winston neither granted nor would have granted Otter consent to
19 record her conversation on Zoom or obtain her Speaker Data if she had been given the
20 opportunity.

21 206. During the Conversations, Otter captured Plaintiff Winston's voiceprint and
22 voiceprints of other attendees, and it created a transcript of the Conversations using the
23 same.

24 207. Otter did so without first informing Plaintiff Winston that it was collecting
25 her biometric data and without first obtaining, from her, a written release for the collection
26 of that data.

27 208. Plaintiff Winston neither granted nor would have granted Otter consent to
28

1 record her Conversations on various meeting platforms or obtain her Speaker Data if she
2 had been given the opportunity.

3 209. Plaintiff Winston's conversational data and Speaker Data remain on Otter's
4 servers, from which Otter continues to profit, despite never obtaining Plaintiff Winston's
5 express and informed consent. The intrusion is especially troubling given the sensitive
6 nature of the discussion and Plaintiff Winston's expectation of confidentiality.

7 210. Plaintiff Winston felt frustrated, embarrassed, and stressed to learn that her
8 conversation was recorded without her consent, and her information, voice, and
9 conversation content remains in Otter's possession indefinitely for Otter's commercial use
10 and training of its machines/technology.

11 211. Plaintiff Winston has therefore had her privacy seriously invaded, her
12 biometric information non-consensually obtained, and been exposed to the risk and
13 harmful conditions created by Otter's violations of federal and Illinois law.

14 **L. Plaintiff Dolan's Experience**

15 212. Plaintiff Dolan participated in a Zoom meeting in Washington state in March
16 2024 where the Otter Notetaker recorded the call. Plaintiff Dolan had no reason to suspect
17 that the conversation was being recorded.

18 213. Plaintiff Dolan used Zoom to communicate regarding certain professional
19 opportunities, which Otter recorded, transcribed, and stored without his knowledge,
20 permission, or consent.

21 214. To his knowledge, Plaintiff Dolan did not create an account with Otter.

22 215. Plaintiff Dolan was not aware, nor did he have any reason to suspect that
23 Otter would obtain and retain his conversational data and Speaker Data.

24 216. Nor was Plaintiff Dolan informed that Otter would use his communications
25 and Speaker Data to train its ASR and machine learning tools.

26 217. Through this process, Otter read and learned, in real time, the contents of
27 Plaintiff Dolan's communications.

1 218. Otter did not procure Plaintiff Dolan’s prior consent, express or otherwise, to
2 have Otter eavesdrop, record, and use his communications and Speaker Data. Nor did
3 Plaintiff Dolan give his prior consent, express or otherwise, to Otter to allow Otter to
4 wiretap his communications or intercept his Speaker Data.

5 219. Further, Plaintiff Dolan never consented to Otter’s use of his communications
6 and Speaker Data to train its ASR and machine learning systems or indefinitely store his
7 private communications and Speaker Data and exploit them for commercial gain.

8 220. Plaintiff Dolan neither granted nor would have granted Otter consent to
9 record his conversation on Zoom or obtain his Speaker Data if he had been given the
10 opportunity.

11 221. Plaintiff Dolan’s conversational data and Speaker Data remain on Otter’s
12 servers, from which Otter continues to profit, despite never obtaining Plaintiff Dolan’s
13 express and informed consent.

14 222. Plaintiff Dolan felt frustrated, embarrassed, and stressed to learn that his
15 conversation was recorded without his consent, and his information, voice, and
16 conversation content remains in Otter’s possession indefinitely for Otter’s commercial use
17 and training of its machines/technology.

18 223. Plaintiff Dolan has, therefore, had his privacy severely invaded and been
19 exposed to the risk and harmful conditions created by Otter’s violations of federal and
20 Washington law alleged below.

21 **CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

22 224. Under FED. R. CIV. P. 23(b)(2), (b)(3), and (c)(4), Plaintiffs seek certification
23 of a nationwide class defined as follows (the “Nationwide Class”):
24

25 All individuals whose conversations were recorded at least once
26 by Otter who did not have an account with Otter at the time of
recording, during the applicable statute of limitations.

27 225. Under FED. R. CIV. P. 23(b)(2), (b)(3), and (c)(4), Plaintiffs further seek
28

1 certification of a California subclass defined as follows (the “California Subclass”):

2 All individuals whose conversations were recorded at least once
3 by Otter while the individuals were in California and/or were
4 participating in a meeting hosted in California, and who did not
5 have an account with Otter at the time of recording, during the
applicable statute of limitations.

6 226. Under FED. R. CIV. P. 23(b)(2), (b)(3), and (c)(4), Plaintiffs seek
7 certification of an Illinois subclass defined as follows (the “Illinois Subclass”):

8 All individuals whose conversations were recorded at least once
9 by Otter while the individuals were in Illinois and/or were
10 participating in a meeting hosted in Illinois, during the five
11 years preceding the filing of this action. Excluded from this
12 definition are individuals who had Otter accounts at the time of
13 recording.

14 227. Under Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(b)(2), (b)(3), and (c)(4), Plaintiffs seek certification
15 of a Washington subclass defined as follows (the “Washington Subclass”):

16 All individuals whose conversations were recorded at least once
17 by Otter while the individuals were in Washington and/or were
18 participating in a meeting hosted in Washington, and who did
19 not have an account with Otter at the time of recording, during
the applicable statute of limitations.

20 228. The Nationwide Class, California Subclass, Illinois Subclass, and
21 Washington Subclass shall be collectively referred to as the “Class.”

22 229. Excluded from the Class are Otter’s employees, officers, directors, legal
23 representatives, successors and wholly or partly owned subsidiaries or affiliated
24 companies; class counsel and their employees; and the judicial officers and their
25 immediate family members and associated court staff assigned to this case.

26 230. **Numerosity.** The number of persons within the Class is substantial and
27 believed to amount to thousands, if not millions, of persons. It is impractical to join each
28 member of the Class as a named Plaintiff. Further, the size and modest value of the claims
of the individual members of the Class renders joinder impractical. Accordingly,

1 utilization of the class action mechanism is the most economically feasible means of
2 determining and adjudicating the merits of this litigation.

3 231. **Commonality and Predominance.** This case presents questions of law
4 and fact common to all Class members, which predominate over individualized issues.
5 Those common questions include:

- 6 a. Whether Otter’s practices violate the ECPA;
- 7 b. Whether Otter’s practices violate the CFAA;
- 8 c. Whether Otter’s practices violate CIPA;
- 9 d. Whether Otter’s practices violate the CDAFA;
- 10 e. Whether Otter’s practices violate California’s prohibitions against
11 intrusion upon seclusion and conversion;
- 12 f. Whether Otter’s practices violate California’s prohibition against larceny
13 and the receipt of stolen property, Cal. Penal Code § 496(a) and (c);
- 14 g. Whether Otter’s practices violate California’s constitutional prohibition
15 against invasion of privacy;
- 16 h. Whether Otter’s practices violate the UCL;
- 17 i. Whether Otter’s practices violate BIPA, Section 15(a) and 15(b);
- 18 j. Whether Otter sought or obtained consent—express or otherwise—from
19 Plaintiffs and the Class prior to intercepting and recording their
20 communications or obtaining their voiceprints;
- 21 k. Whether Otter’s practices violate the Washington Wiretapping Law;
- 22 l. Whether Otter obtained consent to store and use Plaintiffs’ and Class
23 Members’ voice prints, communications, and other data to train their AI
24 systems;
- 25 m. Whether Plaintiffs and members of the Class are entitled to actual and/or
26 statutory damages for the aforementioned violations; and
- 27 n. Whether Otter should be enjoined from obtaining Plaintiffs’ and Class
28

1 members' personal information and communications and be required to
2 destroy all information obtained by virtue of the unlawful data collection.

3 232. **Typicality.** The claims of the named Plaintiffs are typical of the Class,
4 because the named Plaintiffs, like all other Class members, had the content of their
5 communications read, learned, analyzed, and/or examined by Otter, as well as their
6 Speaker Data obtained by Otter.

7 233. **Adequacy of Class Representative.** Plaintiffs are adequate class
8 representatives. They seek relief for all members of the Class and will put the interests of
9 the Class ahead of their individual interests. Plaintiffs do not have conflicts of interest
10 with any other member of the Class.

11 234. **Adequacy of Class Counsel.** Plaintiffs have retained experienced counsel
12 who have successfully prosecuted class actions, including privacy class actions, in
13 California courts, as well as in state and federal courts throughout the country.

14 235. **Superiority and Manageability.** Class-wide adjudication will produce
15 substantial benefits for the Court and for litigants because joinder of all individual Class
16 members is impracticable and inefficient, particularly when compared to the relatively
17 small amount-in-controversy for most individual Class members. Moreover, the
18 prosecution of separate actions by individual Class members would create a risk of
19 inconsistent or varying adjudications. As a result, class-wide adjudication presents fewer
20 management difficulties, conserves judicial resources and the parties' resources, and
21 protects the rights of each Class member.

22 236. **Injunctive or Declaratory Relief.** Otter's acts or omissions giving rise to
23 the invasion of the Plaintiffs' privacy are common to the class. Injunctive relief or
24 declaratory relief that is proper for the Plaintiffs will be appropriate with respect to the
25 Class as a whole.

26 **TOLLING**

27 237. The statutes of limitations applicable to Class claims were tolled by Otter's
28

1 conduct and Plaintiffs' and Class members' delayed discovery of their claims to the time
2 when Otter began joining calls online, without permission.

3 238. As alleged above, Plaintiffs and the Class members did not know, and could
4 not have known, the full extent of Otter's surreptitious gathering, storage, and monetizing
5 of their private conversations without consent.

6 239. Plaintiffs and the Class members could not have discovered, through the
7 exercise of reasonable diligence, the full scope of Otter's alleged unlawful conduct, as it
8 not only recorded their private conversations and information without consent, but also
9 stored and monetized it in a way that Plaintiffs and the Class members do not have control
10 over. Additionally, on information and belief, Otter has already used this information for
11 its commercial advantage by incorporating it into its AI training models.

12 240. Otter did not make clear to Plaintiffs and the Class members the full extent
13 of its recording, storage, and monetization of their conversations, and continues to store
14 and commercially benefit from this information, causing a continuing violation of
15 Plaintiffs' and Class members' rights.

16 241. All applicable statutes of limitations have been tolled by operation of the
17 delayed discovery rule. Under the circumstances, Otter was under a duty to disclose the
18 nature and significance of the invasion of privacy but did not do so. Otter is therefore
19 estopped from relying on any statute of limitations.

20 **CAUSES OF ACTION**

21 **Count 1: Electronic Communications Privacy Act of 1986**

22 **18 U.S.C. § 2510, et seq.**

23 **(On Behalf of Plaintiffs Brewer, Theus, Ryan,**
Winston, Dolan, and the Nationwide Class)

24 242. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference paragraphs 1 through 241 as if fully set
25 forth herein.

26 243. The Federal Wiretap Act, as amended by the Electronic Communications
27 Privacy Case Act of 1986, prohibits the intentional interception of the contents of any wire,

1 oral, or electronic communication through the use of a device. 18 U.S.C. § 2511.

2 244. 18 U.S.C. § 2520(a) provides a private right of action to any person whose
3 wire, oral or electronic communication is intercepted.

4 245. Otter’s actions in intercepting Plaintiffs’ and Class members’ oral
5 communications while they participated in Google Meet, Zoom, and Microsoft Teams calls
6 was intentional. Otter is aware that it is intercepting the communications of non-Otter
7 accountholders in these circumstances and has taken no remedial action.

8 246. Otter’s interceptions of Plaintiffs’ and Class members’ oral communications
9 was done contemporaneously while those communications transpired.

10 247. The communications intercepted by Otter included the contents of the Google
11 Meet, Zoom, and Microsoft Teams calls—i.e., the oral and conversational data contained
12 therein.

13 248. The transmission of conversational data between Plaintiffs and the Class
14 members on the one hand and the Otter Notetaker/OtterPilot on the other, without
15 authorization, constituted “transfer[s] of signs, signals, writing . . . data [and] intelligence
16 of [some] nature transmitted in whole or in part by a wire, radio, electromagnetic, photo-
17 electronic, or photo-optical system that affects interstate commerce[,] and were therefore
18 “electronic communications” within the meaning of 18 U.S.C. § 2510(12).

19 249. The following constitute “devices” within the meaning of 18 U.S.C.
20 § 2510(5):

- 21 a. The Otter Notetaker and OtterPilot software;
- 22 b. Plaintiffs’ and Class members’ Google Meet, Zoom, Microsoft Teams,
23 and other virtual meeting platforms;
- 24 c. Plaintiffs’ and Class members’ computing and mobile devices;
- 25 d. The servers from which Otter intercepted the Plaintiffs’ and Class
26 members’ communications;
- 27 e. Any other tools used to intercept Plaintiffs’ and Class members’
28

1 communications.

2 250. Otter was not an authorized party to the communications because Plaintiffs
3 and Class members did not consent to Otter’s transcription of their communications; were
4 not aware that Otter itself was in the process of obtaining and retaining Plaintiffs and
5 Class members’ communications, including for the improvement of its ASR and machine
6 learning models; and as a result, did not knowingly provide their communications to Otter,
7 as opposed to Otter accountholders and other conversational participants.

8 251. Otter could not manufacture its own status as a party to Plaintiffs’ and Class
9 members’ communications with others by deceptively and surreptitiously intercepting
10 those communications.

11 252. Plaintiffs and the Class members did not consent to the interception of their
12 communications, as they never had the opportunity to assent to the same.

13 253. Moreover, they could not have been said to have even impliedly consented to
14 interception, as they were not fully informed of Otter’s role as an active third-party
15 listener and autonomous data harvesting agent, including the use of their data to train
16 Otter’s ASR and machine learning models. *Cf. Campbell v. Facebook Inc.*, 77 F. Supp. 3d
17 836, 848 (N.D. Cal. 2014).

18 254. Hosts of meetings in which Plaintiffs participated did not properly consent to
19 the illegal collection of data from other meeting participants to whom no notice or improper
20 notice was given about the recording and/or transmission of data to Otter.

21 255. Further, by converting and then using conversational data from Plaintiffs
22 and Class members—without their knowledge, consent, or compensation— to train its
23 ASR and machine learning systems for its own pecuniary gain, Otter engaged in conduct
24 with an unlawful and tortious purpose, supporting additional claims under, *inter alia*, the
25 CFAA and CDAFA, as well as common law claims under California law for intrusion upon
26 seclusion and conversion. Otter’s tortious purpose falls within the “crime-tort” exception,
27 thus, removing any statutory immunity Otter may otherwise claim under the ECPA.

28

1 256. After intercepting the communications, Otter then used the contents of the
2 communications knowing or having reason to know that such information was obtained
3 through the interception of electronic communications in violation of 18 U.S.C. §
4 2511(1)(a).

5 257. As a result of the above actions and pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 2520, the Court
6 may assess statutory damages to Plaintiffs and Class members; injunctive and declaratory
7 relief, sufficient to prevent the same or similar conduct by Otter in the future, and a
8 reasonable attorney’s fee and other litigation costs reasonably incurred.

9 258. Plaintiffs and the Class members also seek such other relief as the Court may
10 deem equitable, legal, and proper.

11 **Count 2: Computer Fraud and Abuse Act**
12 **18 U.S.C. § 1030, et seq.**
13 ***(On Behalf of Plaintiffs Brewer, Theus, Ryan,***
Winston, Dolan, and the Nationwide Class)

14 259. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference paragraphs 1 through 241 as if fully set
15 forth herein.

16 260. The CFAA, enacted in 1986 as part of the ECPA, prohibits the intentional
17 accessing, without authorization or in excess of authorization, of a computer under certain
18 circumstances. 18 U.S.C. § 1030(a).

19 261. The CFAA reflects Congress’s judgment that users have a legitimate interest
20 in the confidentiality and privacy of information within their computers.

21 262. The CFAA provides that it is unlawful to “intentionally access a computer
22 without authorization or exceed[] authorized access, and thereby obtain[] . . . information
23 from any protected computer.” 18 U.S.C. § 1030(a)(2)(c).

24 263. Further, the CFAA mandates that it is unlawful to “knowingly and with
25 intent to defraud, access[] a protected computer without authorization or exceed[ing]
26 authorized access” and thereby “further[] the intended fraud and obtain[] anything of
27 value” 18 U.S.C. § 1030(a)(4).

1 and the Class are entitled to bring this civil action and are entitled to economic damages,
2 compensatory damages, injunctive, equitable, and all available statutory relief, as well as
3 their reasonable attorney's fees and costs and other relief as permitted by the CFAA. 18
4 U.S.C. § 1030(g).

5 272. Plaintiffs and the Class members also seek such other relief as the Court may
6 deem equitable, legal, and proper.

7 **Count 3: Intrusion Upon Seclusion**
8 ***(On Behalf of Plaintiffs Brewer, Theus, Ryan,***
9 ***Winston, Dolan, and the Nationwide Class)***

10 273. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference paragraphs 1 through 241 as if fully set
11 forth herein.

12 274. Plaintiffs asserting claims for intrusion upon seclusion must plead (1)
13 intrusion into a private place, conversation, or matter; (2) in a manner highly offensive to
14 a reasonable person.

15 275. In carrying out its scheme to track and intercept Plaintiffs' and Class
16 members' communications, Otter intentionally intruded upon Plaintiffs' and the Class
17 members' solitude or seclusion in that it effectively placed itself in the middle of
18 conversations to which it was not an authorized party.

19 276. Otter's interception, transcription, and use of Plaintiffs' and the California
20 Class members' data were not authorized by Plaintiffs and the Class members.

21 277. Otter's intentional intrusion into Plaintiffs' and the Class members'
22 communications and their computing devices was highly offensive to a reasonable person
23 in that they violated federal and state laws designed to protect individual privacy and
24 against theft.

25 278. The taking of private conversational data from consumers through deceit is
26 highly offensive behavior, particularly where, as here, Plaintiffs and the California Class
27 members were never given an adequate opportunity to opt-out from the interception of
28 their data.

1 forth herein.

2 285. Plaintiffs and the Class members have property interests in their personal
3 conversational data, as well as aspects of their likeness, such as their Speaker Data.

4 286. Plaintiffs and the Class members at no time consented to Otter appropriating
5 their conversational and Speaker Data for the purposes of transcription or for using the
6 recordings and transcriptions produced to train Otter's ASR and machine learning
7 systems.

8 287. Otter wrongfully disposed of Plaintiffs' and the Class members' property by
9 causing conversational and Speaker Data to be transmitted between their computers and
10 mobile devices and Otter using the Otter Notetaker and OtterPilot without their consent
11 and without payment.

12 288. As a result of Otter's conversion, Plaintiffs and the Class members have
13 suffered injury and damages in an amount to be proven at trial.

14 289. Plaintiffs and the Class members also seek such other relief as the Court may
15 deem equitable, legal, and proper.

16 **Count 5: Unjust Enrichment**
17 **(On Behalf of Plaintiffs Brewer, Theus, Ryan,**
18 **Winston, Dolan, and the Nationwide Class)**

19 290. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference paragraphs 1 through 241 as if fully set
20 forth herein.

21 274. Through its unlawful, unfair and deceptive conduct, Otter knowingly
22 obtained significant revenue from its unlawful collection and use of Plaintiffs' and Class
23 Members' data by using and processing it for commercial gain, including improving its
24 products.

25 275. By absconding and misusing Plaintiffs' and Class Members' personal data,
26 Otter was unjustly enriched and received both financial and non-financial benefits. For
27 example, Otter exploits illegally obtained conversations for its own commercial advantage
28

1 such as training its proprietary software, improving its services, contracting with service
2 vendors, and more.

3 276. Otter enriched itself by saving the costs it reasonably should have spent by
4 obtaining users consent to record and use their private communications. Yet, to increase
5 profits, and at the expense of Plaintiffs and the Class, it gained a competitive and financial
6 advantage by failing to obtain proper consent to record and use this information. Due to
7 Otter's conduct, Plaintiffs and Class Members suffered harm, including from privacy
8 invasion, loss of compensation/value for their data, and the lost profits from the use of
9 their personal data.
10

11 277. It would be inequitable and unjust to permit Otter to retain the enormous
12 economic benefits (financial and otherwise) it has obtained from and/or at the expense of
13 Plaintiffs and Class Members.
14

15 278. Otter will be unjustly enriched if it is permitted to retain the economic
16 benefits conferred upon it by Plaintiffs and Class Members through its obtaining of their
17 personal data and the value thereof, and profiting from the unlawful, unauthorized, and
18 impermissible use of this data.
19

20 279. Plaintiffs and Class Members are therefore entitled to recover the amounts
21 realized by Otter at their expense.

22 280. Since Plaintiffs and the Class Members have no adequate remedy at law and
23 are therefore entitled to restitution, disgorgement, and/or the imposition of a constructive
24 trust to recover the amount of Otter's ill-gotten gains, and/or other sums as may be just
25 and equitable. In the absence of completed discovery regarding class certification and
26 merits, forcing an election of remedies at the initial pleading stage is premature.
27

1 injunction, Plaintiffs and the Class Members cannot be sure that the
2 information is secure and private or properly destroyed.

3 b. Injunctive relief is also necessary to protect members of general public
4 from Otter’s unlawful recording and storage of private conversations.
5 Without court intervention, Otter will likely continue its privacy
6 violations.

7
8 c. While Otter has disclosed how it may use Plaintiffs’ and Class Members’
9 private conversations and information, it is not currently known
10 specifically what information is being kept, how it is being used, and
11 when, if ever, it will be destroyed. Therefore, injunctive relief would
12 ensure and provide Plaintiffs and the public with ability to control access
13 to their information, and limit its exposure.

14
15 d. In addition, discovery—which has not yet been provided—may reveal
16 that the claims providing legal remedies are inadequate. At this time, in
17 the absence of completed discovery regarding class certification and
18 merits, forcing an election of remedies at the initial pleadings stage is
19 premature and likely to lead to subsequent, potentially belated, and hotly
20 contested motions to amend the pleadings to add equitable remedies
21 based on a lengthy historical recount of discovery and analysis of
22 voluminous exhibits, transcripts, discovery responses, document
23 productions, etc., as well as related motions to seal confidential
24 information contained therein.
25
26

27 286. Plaintiffs and the Class Members therefore seek a declaration that Otter
28

1 violated their privacy and property rights, and Otter must take remedial measures,
2 including, but not limited to:

- 3 a. Prohibiting Otter from engaging in the wrongful acts stated herein;
- 4 b. Requiring Otter to implement adequate security and privacy protocols
5 and practices consistent with industry standards, applicable regulations,
6 and federal, state, and local laws;
- 7 c. Mandating that Otter provide proper notice to all affected parties, and
8 posted publicly;
- 9 d. Requiring that Otter delete, destroy, and purge Plaintiffs' and Class
10 Members' unlawfully obtained data;
- 11 e. Requiring Otter to engage independent third-party auditors and/or
12 internal personnel to ensure all unlawfully obtained information is
13 permanently deleted and purged from its system; and,
- 14 f. Requiring all further and just corrective action, consistent with
15
16 permissible law and pursuant to only those causes of action so permitted.
17
18

19 **Count 7: Trespass to Chattels**
20 ***(On Behalf of Plaintiffs Brewer, Theus, Ryan,***
21 ***Winston, Dolan, and the Nationwide Class)***

22 287. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference paragraphs 1 through 241 as if fully set
23 forth herein.

24 288. Otter, intentionally and without consent or other legal justification,
25 obtained the contents of Plaintiffs' and Class Members' private conversations and
26 voiceprints by surreptitiously recording and storing their online meeting information
27 without consent.
28

1 289. Otter placed the OtterPilot and OtterNotetaker into the online calls of
2 Plaintiffs and Class Members, without their knowledge or consent, causing their private
3 information and voiceprints to be recorded, stored, processed, and otherwise used to
4 benefit Otter.

5 290. Otter additionally engineered a process in which Plaintiffs and Class
6 Members would be notified of notes from a meeting (even though Plaintiffs had not
7 consented to it) and in an attempt to access the notes that were taken in the meeting,
8 Otter would then software installed on their computer to spread further despite
9 Plaintiffs and Class Members not intending to do so.

10 291. Otters' intentional and unjustified interception of Plaintiffs' and Class
11 Members' private communications and voiceprints as well as its intentional and
12 misleading methods to spread its software interfered with Plaintiffs' and Class Members'
13 use of the following personal property owned by Plaintiffs: (a) Plaintiffs' computers and
14 phones; and (b) Plaintiffs' personally identifiable information.

15 **Count 8: California Invasion of Privacy Act**
16 **Cal. Penal Code §§ 631 and 632**
17 ***(On Behalf of Plaintiffs Brewer, Theus,***
Ryan, and the California Subclass)

18 292. Plaintiffs Brewer, Theus, and Ryan (herein, "Plaintiffs") incorporate by
19 reference paragraphs 1 through 241 as if fully set forth herein.

20 293. The California Invasion of Privacy Act is codified at Cal. Penal Code §§ 630
21 to 638. The Act begins with its statement of purpose: "The Legislature hereby declares
22 that advances in science and technology have led to the development of new devices and
23 techniques for the purpose of eavesdropping upon private communications and that the
24 invasion of privacy resulting from the continual and increasing use of such devices and
25 techniques has created a serious threat to the free exercise of personal liberties and cannot
26 be tolerated in a free and civilized society."

27 294. Cal. Penal Code § 631(a) provides that: "Any person who, by means of any
28

1 machine, instrument, or contrivance, or in any other manner...willfully and without the
2 consent of all parties to the communication, or in any unauthorized manner, reads, or
3 attempts to read, or to learn the contents or meaning of any message, report, or
4 communication while the same is in transit or passing over any wire, line, or cable, or is
5 being sent from, or received at any place within this state; or who uses, or attempts to use,
6 in any manner, or for any purpose, or to communicate in any way, any information so
7 obtained, or who aids, agrees with, employs, or conspires with any person or persons to
8 unlawfully do, or permit, or cause to be done any of the acts or things mentioned above in
9 this section, is punishable by a fine not exceeding two thousand five hundred dollars
10 (\$2,500).”

11 295. California Penal Code § 632(a) provides, in pertinent part: “A person who,
12 intentionally and without the consent of all parties to a confidential communication, uses
13 an electronic amplifying or recording device to eavesdrop upon or record the confidential
14 communication, whether the communication is carried on among the parties in the
15 presence of one another or by means of a telegraph, telephone, or other device, except a
16 radio, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding two thousand five hundred dollars”

17 296. At all relevant times, Otter intercepted, recorded, transcribed, and utilized
18 Plaintiffs’ and California Class members’ communications exchanged with others using
19 platforms such as Google Meet, Zoom, and Microsoft Teams, while those communications
20 were in transit or passing over any wire, line, or cable or were being sent or received from
21 any place in California.

22 297. As recounted above, Otter willfully and intentionally intercepted these
23 communications without consent from all parties to the communications.

24 298. Otter intended to learn, and did learn, the meaning of the content in the
25 communications it intercepted.

26 299. Otter’s subsequent “de-identification” process reveals that Otter necessarily
27 became aware of the content of the California Class members’ communications as those

1 communications were transmitted to Otter in real-time.

2 300. Otter Notetaker and OtterPilot are “machine[s], instrument[s],
3 contrivance[s], or . . . other manner[s]” used to engage in the prohibited conduct at issue
4 here.

5 301. The following items additionally constitute “machine[s], instrument[s],
6 contrivance[s], or . . . other manner[s]” within the meaning of CIPA:

- 7 a. The Plaintiffs’ and California Class members’ Google Meet,
8 Zoom, Microsoft Teams, and other virtual meeting platforms.
- 9 b. The Plaintiffs’ and California Class members’ computing and
10 mobile devices.
- 11 c. The servers from which Otter intercepted the Plaintiffs’ and
12 California Class members’ communications.
- 13 d. Any other tools used to intercept the Plaintiffs’ and California
14 Class members’ communications.

15 302. Otter is a separate legal entity that offers “‘software-as-a-service’ and not
16 merely a passive device.” *Saleh v. Nike, Inc.*, 562 F. Supp. 3d 503, 520 (C.D. Cal. 2021).

17 303. Accordingly, Otter was a third party to the Plaintiffs’ and Class members’
18 intercepted communications. *Id.* at 521; *see also Javier v. Assurance IQ, LLC*, 649 F. Supp.
19 3d 891, 900 (N.D. Cal. 2023).

20 304. Otter’s interception of Plaintiffs’ and California Class members’
21 communications during their Google Meet, Zoom, Microsoft Teams, and other meetings
22 originated in and transpired in California.

23 305. The data collected by Otter constituted “confidential communications” as
24 that term is used in Section 632, because Plaintiffs and California Class members had
25 objectively reasonable expectations of privacy while engaging in private conversations and
26 calls using Google Meet, Zoom, and Microsoft Teams.

27 306. The violations of CIPA §§ 631 and 632 constitute an invasion of privacy
28

1 sufficient to confer Article III standing.

2 307. Pursuant to Cal. Penal Code § 637.2, Plaintiffs and California Class Members
3 have been injured by the violations of CIPA §§ 631 and 632, and each seeks the greater of
4 \$5,000 per violation or three times the actual amount of damages, as well as injunctive
5 relief, for Otter’s violations of CIPA §§ 631 and 632.

6 308. Plaintiffs and the California Class members also seek such other relief as the
7 Court may deem equitable, legal, and proper.

8 **Count 9: California Invasion of Privacy Act**
9 **Cal. Penal Code § 635**
10 ***(On Behalf of Plaintiffs Brewer, Theus,***
Ryan, and the California Subclass)

11 309. Plaintiffs Brewer, Theus, and Ryan (herein, “Plaintiffs”) incorporate by
12 reference paragraphs 1 through 241 as if fully set forth herein.

13 310. CIPA § 635 makes punishable anyone “who manufactures, assembles, sells,
14 offers for sale, advertises for sale, possesses, transports, imports, or furnishes to another
15 any device which is primarily or exclusively designed or intended for eavesdropping upon
16 the communication of another[.]” Cal. Penal Code § 635.

17 311. The Otter Notetaker/OtterPilot is a “device” which is “designed or intended
18 for eavesdropping upon the communication of another.”

19 312. Injuries caused using Otter Notetaker/OtterPilot are traceable to Otter’s
20 furnishing and provision of the device.

21 313. Plaintiffs and California Class members are entitled to bring a CIPA § 635
22 claim per CIPA § 637.2. The court in *In re Meta Pixel Tax Filing Cases* noted that “[b]y
23 including Section 635 within the provisions enforceable under Section 637.2 [] the
24 California Legislature clearly intended to permit private enforcement[.]” 724 F. Supp. 3d
25 987, 1009 (N.D. Cal. 2024).

26 314. Plaintiffs and the California Class members seek all relief available under
27 Cal. Penal Code § 637.2, including injunctive relief and statutory damages of \$5,000 per
28

1 violation.

2 **Count 10: California Invasion of Privacy Act**
3 **Cal. Penal Code § 638.51**
4 **(On Behalf of Plaintiffs Brewer, Theus,**
5 **Ryan, and the California Subclass)**

6 315. Plaintiffs Brewer, Theus, and Ryan (herein, “Plaintiffs”) incorporate by
7 reference paragraphs 1 through 241 as if fully set forth herein.

8 316. CIPA § 638.51 provides that “a person may not install or use a pen register
9 or a trap and trace device without first obtaining a court order[.]” Cal. Penal Code § 638.51.

10 317. A “pen register” is defined as “a device or process that records or decodes
11 dialing, routing, addressing, or signaling information transmitted by an instrument or
12 facility from which a wire or electronic communication is transmitted, but not the contents
13 of a communication.” Cal. Penal Code § 638.50(b).

14 318. A “trap and trace device” is defined as “a device or process that captures the
15 incoming electronic or other impulses that identify the originating number or other
16 dialing, routing, addressing, or signaling information reasonably likely to identify the
17 source of a wire or electronic communication, but not the contents of a communication.”
18 Cal. Penal Code § 638.50(c).

19 319. Courts interpret “trap and trace device” and “pen register” broadly. The court
20 in *Greenley v. Kochava, Inc.* noted Section 638.50’s “expansive language” and explained
21 that this “indicates courts should focus less on the form of the data collector and more on
22 the result.” 684 F. Supp. 3d 1024, 1050 (S.D. Cal. 2023). *See also Rodriguez v.*
23 *Autotrader.com, Inc.*, 762 F. Supp. 3d 921, 929 (C.D. Cal. 2025) (rejecting defendant’s
24 suggestion that Section 638.51 applies only to telephone surveillance, not software: “the
25 definitions supplied by § 638.51 are not so limited”).

26 320. Otter violated Section 638.51 by using software to record private
27 communications without consent and then transfer it for its own use.

28 321. Otter did not obtain a court order to use the Otter Notetaker/OtterPilot to

1 record private communications.

2 322. Plaintiffs and the Class Members did not consent to the use of a pen register
3 or trap and trace device.

4 323. Plaintiffs and the Class Members seek all relief available under Cal. Penal
5 Code § 637.2, including injunctive relief and statutory damages of \$5,000 per violation.

6 **Count 11: Comprehensive Computer Data and Fraud Access Act**

7 **Cal. Penal Code § 502, et seq.**

8 **(On Behalf of Plaintiffs Brewer, Theus,
Ryan, and the California Subclass)**

9 324. Plaintiffs Brewer, Theus, and Ryan (herein, “Plaintiffs”) incorporate by
10 reference paragraphs 1 through 241 as if fully set forth herein.

11 325. Cal. Penal Code § 502 provides: “For purposes of bringing a civil or a criminal
12 action under this section, a person who causes, by any means, the access of a computer,
13 computer system, or computer network in one jurisdiction from another jurisdiction is
14 deemed to have personally accessed the computer, computer system, or computer network
15 in each jurisdiction.” Plaintiffs’ and California Class members’ computers, including
16 desktops, laptops, and smart phone devices are “computers” within the meaning of the
17 statute.

18 326. Otter violated Cal. Penal Code § 502(c)(2) by knowingly accessing and
19 without permission taking, copying, analyzing, and using Plaintiffs’ and California Class
20 members’ data.

21 327. Otter was unjustly enriched, by acquiring Plaintiffs’ and California Class
22 members’ valuable personal information without permission and using that information
23 for Otter’s own financial benefit to improve its ASR and machine learning models.
24 Plaintiffs and the California Class members retain a stake in the profits Otter earned from
25 the use of their personal data because, under the circumstances, it is unjust for Otter to
26 retain those profits.

27 328. Otter accessed, copied, took, analyzed, and used data from Plaintiffs and
28

1 California Class members' computers in and from the State of California, where Otter: (1)
2 has its principal place of business; and (2) used servers that provided communication links
3 between Plaintiffs and California Class members' computers and Otter, which allowed
4 Otter to access and obtain Plaintiffs' and California Class members' data. Accordingly,
5 Otter caused the access of Plaintiffs' and California Class members' computers from
6 California, and is therefore deemed to have accessed Plaintiffs' and California Class
7 members' computers in California.

8 329. As a direct and proximate result of Otter's unlawful conduct within the
9 meaning of Cal. Penal Code § 502, Otter has caused loss to Plaintiffs and California Class
10 members and has been unjustly enriched in an amount to be proven at trial.

11 330. Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and California Class members, seek
12 compensatory damages and/or disgorgement in an amount to be proven at trial, and
13 declarative, injunctive, or other equitable relief.

14 331. Plaintiffs and the California Class members are also entitled to recover their
15 reasonable attorneys' fees pursuant to Cal. Penal Code § 502(e).

16 332. Plaintiffs and the California Class members also seek such other relief as the
17 Court may deem equitable, legal, and proper.

18 **Count 12: Larceny/Receipt of Stolen Property**
19 **Cal. Penal Code § 496(a) and (c)**
20 **(On Behalf of Plaintiffs Brewer, Theus,**
Ryan, and the California Subclass)

21 333. Plaintiffs Brewer, Theus, and Ryan (herein, "Plaintiffs") incorporate by
22 reference paragraphs 1 through 241 as if fully set forth herein.

23 334. Courts recognize that internet users have a property interest in their
24 personal information and data, including the Speaker Data. *See Calhoun v. Google, LLC*,
25 526 F. Supp. 3d 605, at *21 (N.D. Cal. Mar. 17, 2021) (recognizing property interest in
26 personal information and rejecting Google's argument that "the personal information that
27

1 Google allegedly stole is not property”); *In re Experian Data Breach Litigation*, 2016 U.S.
2 Dist. LEXIS 184500, at *5 (C.D. Cal. Dec. 29, 2016) (loss of value of PII is a viable damages
3 theory); *In re Marriott Int’l Inc. Customer Data Sec. Breach Litig.*, 440 F. Supp. 3d 447,
4 460 (D. Md. 2020) (“The growing trend across courts that have considered this issue is to
5 recognize the lost property value of this [personal] information.”); *Simona Opris v. Sincera*,
6 2022 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 94192, at *20 (E.D. Pa. 2022) (collecting cases).

7 335. Cal. Penal Code § 496(c) permits any person who has been injured by a
8 violation of section 496(a) to recover three times the amount of actual damages, costs of
9 suit and attorney’s fees in a civil suit.

10 336. Cal. Penal Code § 496(a) creates an action against any person who (1)
11 receives any property that has been stolen or obtained in any manner constituting theft,
12 knowing the property to be stolen or obtained, or (2) conceals, sells, withholds, or aids in
13 concealing or withholding any property from the owner, knowing the property to be so
14 stolen or illegally obtained.

15 337. Under Cal. Penal Code § 1.07(a)(38), “person” means “an individual,
16 corporation, or association.” Thus, Otter is a person under § 496(a).

17 338. As set forth herein, the Plaintiffs’ and California Class members’ private
18 conversational information and Speaker Data was stolen or obtained by theft, without
19 limitation, under Cal. Penal Code § 484, by false or fraudulent representations or
20 pretenses. At no point did Otter have Plaintiffs’ and California Class members’ consent to
21 record and process their private communications or Speaker Data.

22 339. Otter meets the grounds for liability of § 496(a) because it received
23 information that was stolen or obtained by theft and/or false pretenses, and which it knew
24 was obtained illegally when it received it.

25 340. As a direct and proximate result of the acts and omissions described above,
26 Plaintiffs and the California Class members were injured by Otter’s violations of section
27 496(a).

1 341. Pursuant to Cal. Penal Code § 496(c), Plaintiffs and the California Class
2 members seek actual damages, treble damages, costs of suit, reasonable attorneys’ fees,
3 and any other damages that are authorized by law.

4 **Count 13: Invasion of Privacy Under California Constitution**
5 **Cal. Const. Art. I, § 1**
6 **(On Behalf of Plaintiffs Brewer, Theus,**
7 **Ryan, and the California Subclass)**

7 342. Plaintiffs Brewer, Theus, and Ryan (herein, “Plaintiffs”) incorporate by
8 reference paragraphs 1 through 241 as if fully set forth herein.

9 343. Art. I, § 1 of the California Constitution provides: “All people are by nature
10 free and independent and have inalienable rights. Among these are enjoying and
11 defending life and liberty, acquiring, possessing, and protecting property, and pursuing
12 and obtaining safety, happiness, and privacy.” Cal. Const., Art. I, § 1.

13 344. The right to privacy in California’s Constitution creates a private right of
14 action against private and government entities.

15 345. Plaintiffs and California Class members have and continue to have a
16 reasonable expectation of privacy and interest in: (1) precluding the dissemination and/or
17 misuse of their sensitive, confidential communications; and (2) being able to communicate
18 without observation, intrusion or interference.

19 346. At all relevant times, by using the Otter Notetaker/Pilot to record and
20 communicate Plaintiffs’ and California Class members’ private communications, Otter
21 invaded their privacy rights under the California Constitution.

22 347. Plaintiffs and California Class members had a reasonable expectation that
23 their communications would remain confidential, and that Otter would not secretly record
24 their private conversations and then use them for their own commercial benefit, as well
25 as share them with third parties.

26 348. This invasion of privacy is serious in nature, scope, and impact because it
27 relates to communications that Plaintiffs and the California Class members intended to
28

1 keep private. Moreover, it constitutes an egregious breach of the societal norms underlying
2 privacy rights.

3 349. As a result of Otter’s actions, Plaintiffs and California Class members have
4 suffered harm and injury, including but not limited to an invasion of their privacy rights.

5 350. Plaintiffs and California Class members have been harmed as a direct and
6 proximate result of Otter’s invasion of their privacy and are entitled to injunctive relief.

7 351. Plaintiffs and the California Class members seek all other relief as the Court
8 may deem just, proper, and available for invasion of privacy under the California
9 Constitution.

10 **Count 14: California Unfair Competition Law**
11 **Cal. Bus. Prof. Code § 17200 *et seq.***
12 **(On Behalf of Plaintiffs Brewer, Theus,**
Ryan, and the California Subclass)

13 352. Plaintiffs Brewer, Theus, and Ryan (herein, “Plaintiffs”) incorporate by
14 reference paragraphs 1 through 241 as if fully set forth herein.

15 353. The UCL prohibits any “unlawful, unfair, or fraudulent business act or
16 practice and unfair, deceptive, untrue or misleading advertising.” Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code
17 § 17200. By engaging in the aforementioned practices, Otter has violated the UCL.

18 354. Otter’s “unlawful” acts and practices include its violations of the ECPA,
19 CFAA, CIPA, CDAFA, Cal. Penal Code § 496(a) and (c), intrusion upon seclusion,
20 conversion, and the California Constitution’s prohibition against invasion of privacy.

21 355. Otter’s conduct violated the spirit and letter of these laws, which protect
22 property, economic and privacy interests, and prohibit the unauthorized interception and
23 collection of private communications and information.

24 356. Otter’s “unfair” practices include its violation of property, economic and
25 privacy interests protected by the statutes and common law causes of action identified in
26 paragraph 128. To establish liability under the unfair prong, Plaintiffs and the California
27 Class members need not establish that these provisions were violated, although the claims

1 pleaded herein do.

2 357. Plaintiffs and California Class members have suffered an injury-in-fact,
3 including the loss of money and/or property because of Otter's unfair and/or unlawful
4 practices, to wit, the unauthorized disclosure and taking of their personal information,
5 conversational data, and Speaker Data which has value as demonstrated by its use and
6 value in training Otter's ASR and machine learning systems.

7 358. Otter's actions caused damage to and loss of Plaintiffs' and California Class
8 members' property right to control the dissemination and use of their personal
9 information, communications, and Speaker Data.

10 359. Plaintiffs and California Class members have suffered harm, not only in the
11 form of diminution of the value of their private and personally identifiable data and
12 content, but also harm for which there is no adequate legal remedy.

13 360. Damages cannot return the conversational data that Otter now has at its
14 disposal for its ASR and machine learning purposes, and in turn, a legal remedy is
15 inadequate to ensure the current protection and safety of Plaintiffs' and California Class
16 members' conversational and Speaker Data, as well as the protection and safety of such
17 data going forward. Accordingly, Plaintiffs and Class members seek equitable and
18 injunctive relief, including but not limited to, deletion of the data Otter has unlawfully
19 obtained.

20 361. Furthermore, as part of Otter's request for equitable relief, Otter seeks the
21 restitution and disgorgement of unjust profits and revenues Otter reaped from using
22 Plaintiffs' and California Class members' conversational and Speaker Data to improve its
23 ASR and machine learning systems.

24 362. Plaintiffs and the California Class members also seek such other relief as
25 the Court may deem equitable, legal, and proper.

26 **Count 15: Illinois Biometric Information Privacy Act**
27 **740 ILCS 14/15(a)**

1 **(On Behalf of Plaintiffs Jasper Walker, Michael Walker,**
2 **Winston, and the Illinois Subclass)**

3 363. Plaintiffs Jasper Walker, Michael Walker, and Winston (herein, “Plaintiffs”)
4 incorporate by reference paragraphs 1 through 241 as if fully set forth herein.

5 364. Otter is a “private entity” as defined by BIPA. 740 ILCS 14/10.

6 365. Plaintiffs’ and the Illinois Subclass’s Speaker Data (defined above) qualify as
7 “biometric identifier[s]” or “biometric information” as defined by BIPA. *Id.*

8 366. Otter violated BIPA by collecting and possessing Plaintiffs’ and the Illinois
9 Subclass’s Speaker Data without first publishing a “written policy, made available to the
10 public, establishing a retention schedule and guidelines for permanently destroying
11 biometric identifiers and biometric information when the initial purpose for collecting or
12 obtaining such identifiers or information has been satisfied or within 3 years of the
13 individual’s last interaction with the private entity, whichever occurs first.” 740 ILCS §
14 14/15(a).

15 367. As a result, Plaintiffs and members of the Illinois Subclass each seek and are
16 entitled to (1) liquidated damages of \$1,000 for each of Otter’s negligent violations; (2)
17 liquidated damages of \$5,000 for each of Otter’s reckless or intentional violations; (3)
18 reasonable attorneys’ fees and costs, including expert witness fees and other litigation
19 expenses; (4) injunctive relief; and (5) any other relief that the Court deems appropriate.
20 *Id.* § 14/20.

21 **Count 16: Illinois Biometric Information Privacy Act**
22 **740 ILCS 14/15(b)**

23 **(On Behalf of Plaintiffs Jasper Walker, Michael Walker,**
24 **Winston, and the Illinois Subclass)**

25 368. Plaintiffs Jasper Walker, Michael Walker, and Winston (herein, “Plaintiffs”)
26 incorporate by reference paragraphs 1 through 241 as is fully set forth herein.

27 369. Otter is a “private entity” as defined by BIPA. 740 ILCS 14/10.

28 370. Plaintiffs’ and the Illinois Subclass’s Speaker Data qualify as “biometric

1 identifier[s]” or “biometric information” as defined by BIPA. *Id.*

2 371. Otter violated BIPA by collecting and possessing Plaintiffs’ and the Illinois
3 Subclass’s Speaker Data without first: informing them in writing that a biometric
4 identifier or biometric information was being collected or stored; informing them in writing
5 of the specific purpose and length of term for which a biometric identifier or biometric
6 information was being collected, stored, and used; or obtaining a written release from them
7 regarding the collection and storage of their biometric data. *Id.* § 14/15(b).

8 372. As a result, Plaintiffs and members of the Illinois Subclass each seek and are
9 entitled to (1) liquidated damages of \$1,000 for each of Defendant’s negligent violations;
10 (2) liquidated damages of \$5,000 for each of Defendant’s reckless or intentional violations;
11 (3) reasonable attorneys’ fees and costs, including expert witness fees and other litigation
12 expenses; (4) injunctive relief; and (5) any other relief that the Court deems appropriate.
13 *Id.* § 14/20.

14 **Count 17: Washington Wiretapping Law**
15 **Wash. Rev. Code §§ 9.73.030, *et seq.***
16 **(On Behalf of Plaintiff Dolan and the Washington Subclass)**

17 373. Plaintiff Riley Dolan (herein, “Plaintiff Dolan”) incorporates by reference
18 paragraphs 1 through 241 as if fully set forth herein.

19 374. Washington law prohibits the interception or recording of a private phone
20 call, in-person conversation, or electronic communication, unless all parties to the
21 communication consent. Wash. Rev. Code § 9.73.030.

22 375. More specifically, the statute states that: “Private communication
23 transmitted by telephone, telegraph, radio, or other device between two or more
24 individuals between points within or without the state by any device electronic or
25 otherwise designed to record and/or transmit said communication regardless how such
26 device is powered or actuated, without first obtaining the consent of all the participants
27 in the communication.” The same consent requirement applies to “private conversations
28

1 by any device electronic or otherwise designed to record or transmit such conversation
2 regardless how the device is powered or actuated.”

3 376. Otter recorded private communications and/or conversation through the use
4 of “devices,” including the Otter Notetaker/OtterPilot, within the State of Washington.

5 377. Plaintiff Dolan and the Washington Subclass participated in online meetings
6 where the Otter Notetaker/OtterPilot was enabled without their consent, meetings in
7 which there was a justified expectation that their communications would not be
8 intercepted.

9 378. Otter, using the Otter Notetaker/OtterPilot, intercepted and recorded the
10 private communications of Plaintiff Dolan and the Washington Subclass in real time.

11 379. Otter then used the communications it intercepted to train its ASR and
12 machine learning models—in other words, for its own financial benefit.

13 380. Plaintiff Dolan and the Washington Subclass did not consent to Otter’s
14 interception and use of their communications.

15 381. Otter’s interception and use of Plaintiff Dolan’s and Washington Subclass’s
16 communications was intentional, as Otter knowingly created and configured the Otter
17 Notetaker/OtterPilot to intentionally intercept communications in Washington without
18 consent from all the parties to the communication.

19 382. Plaintiff Dolan and Washington Subclass members were not aware that their
20 electronic communications were being intercepted by Otter, nor did they ever consent to
21 the same.

22 383. The plan to effectuate this tracking and interception of Plaintiff Dolan’s and
23 Washington Subclass members’ communications while they were using Google Meet,
24 Zoom, or Microsoft Teams was executed in Washington.

25 384. Defendant, knowing that this conduct was unlawful and a violation of
26 Plaintiff Dolan’s and the members of the Washington Subclass’s right to privacy and a
27 violation of Wash. Rev. Code § 9.73.030, *et seq.*, did intrude on Plaintiff Dolan and the
28

1 members of the Washington Subclass’s privacy by knowingly and/or negligently and/or
2 intentionally engaging in the aforementioned recording activities relative to the
3 conversations between Plaintiff Dolan and members of the Washington Subclass, on the
4 one hand, and Otter on the other hand, as alleged herein above.

5 385. Based on the foregoing, Plaintiff Dolan and the members of the Washington
6 Subclass are entitled to, and below herein do pray for, their statutory remedies and
7 damages, including but not limited to, those set forth in Wash. Rev. Code § 9.73.060.

8 386. Pursuant to Wash. Rev. Code § 9.73.060, Plaintiff and the Washington
9 Subclass seek (i) actual damages, not less than liquidated damages computed at the rate
10 of \$100 a day for each day of violation, not to exceed \$1,000, and (ii) reasonable attorneys’
11 fees and other costs of litigation incurred.

12 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

13 Plaintiffs, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, respectfully
14 request:

- 15 a. certification of the proposed Class and Subclasses;
 - 16 b. appointment of Plaintiffs’ counsel as class counsel;
 - 17 c. actual and statutory damages in an amount to be determined at trial;
 - 18 d. a declaration that Otter’s conduct was wrongful, unfair, unconscionable and
19 in violation of federal, California, Illinois, and Washington law;
 - 20 e. an order enjoining Otter’s unlawful and unfair conduct;
 - 21 f. restitution and disgorgement of all profits Otter wrongfully obtained;
 - 22 g. an award to Plaintiffs and the Class of all damages, including attorneys’
23 fees and reimbursement of litigation expenses, recoverable under applicable
24 law; and
 - 25 h. such other relief as this Court deems just and equitable.
- 26
27
28

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiffs demand a jury trial on all applicable claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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